

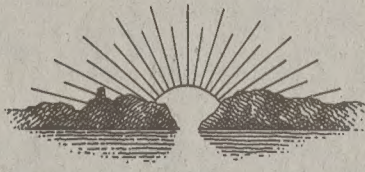
February celebrates Black History Month

BYU honors African American culture

See Page 5

THE DAILY UNIVERSE

LET THERE

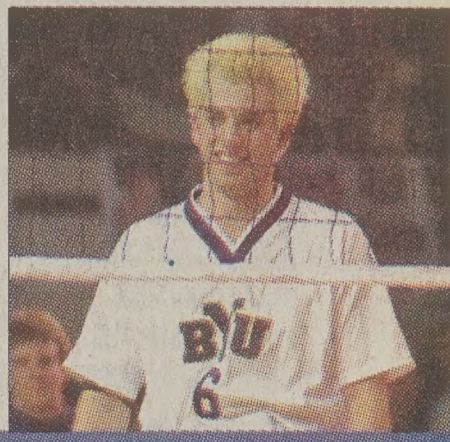


BE LIGHT

BYU stomps UCLA

Men's volleyball sweeps the Bruins 3-0 twice

Page 7



America mourns death of astronauts

Associated Press

NASA scientist investigate the space shuttle Columbia's debris in hopes to discover the cause of the crash.

Dittmore said.

Dittmore said the engineering data showed a temperature rise of 20 to 30 degrees in the left wheel well of the shuttle about seven minutes before communication was lost with the spacecraft. There was an even more significant temperature rise — about 60 degrees over five minutes — in the middle left side of the fuselage, he said.

The drag on the left wing began a short

while later, causing the shuttle's automated flight system to start to make adjustments.

Across Texas and Louisiana, meanwhile, officials were marking the exact satellite measures of the locations where debris was found in hopes it would help reconstruct the accident.

Dittmore said NASA engineers are still trying to recover 32 seconds worth of additional data from the flight computers. But he said the combination of new engineering data and an observer who reported seeing debris from the shuttle while it was still passing over California may create "a path that may lead us to the cause."

The shuttle broke up shortly before landing Saturday, killing all seven astronauts. Most of its debris landed in eastern Texas and Louisiana.

Earlier Sunday, NASA administrator See *SHUTTLE* on Page 3



Reuters

Flowers are laid in front of the NASA Space Center in memory of the seven astronauts who died Saturday morning when the space shuttle returned to Earth.



Photo by Amber Clawson

Boyd K. Packer, acting president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, spoke at the CES Fireside Sunday.

Keeping bodies clean helps to fight temptation

By JESSICA POE

Elder Boyd K. Packer said the youth of the church must keep their bodies clean and their lives in line with the commandments, in a Church Education System fireside, Sunday.

Elder Packer, acting president of The Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, shared sections of his patriarchal blessing to youth to illustrate how he gained a testimony of the importance of keeping bodies clean.

His blessing revealed the need to cherish his body. It also gave him instruction to guard and protect it.

"I'm all at once, I didn't care what type of body I had," Elder Packer said, having suffered polio as a child.

With the blessing of a physical body comes the responsibility to care for it and use its power to procreate appropriately.

"You must guard that sacred power with your life," he said.

Elder Packer directed the youth to take care of their bodies by avoiding pornography, sexual temptation and following the Word of Wisdom.

"You know, marijuana isn't listed in Section 89 (of the Church's Doctrine and Covenants), but neither is strychnine or arsenic ... the point is, if you want to move on spiritually, do as you ought to do in this life, that is one of the commandments," Elder Packer said.

Elder Packer also addressed issues that the church has made official statements about, like cloning, abortion, pornography and drinking caffeinated soft drinks.

"You don't have to have a commandment for all things," Elder Packer said.

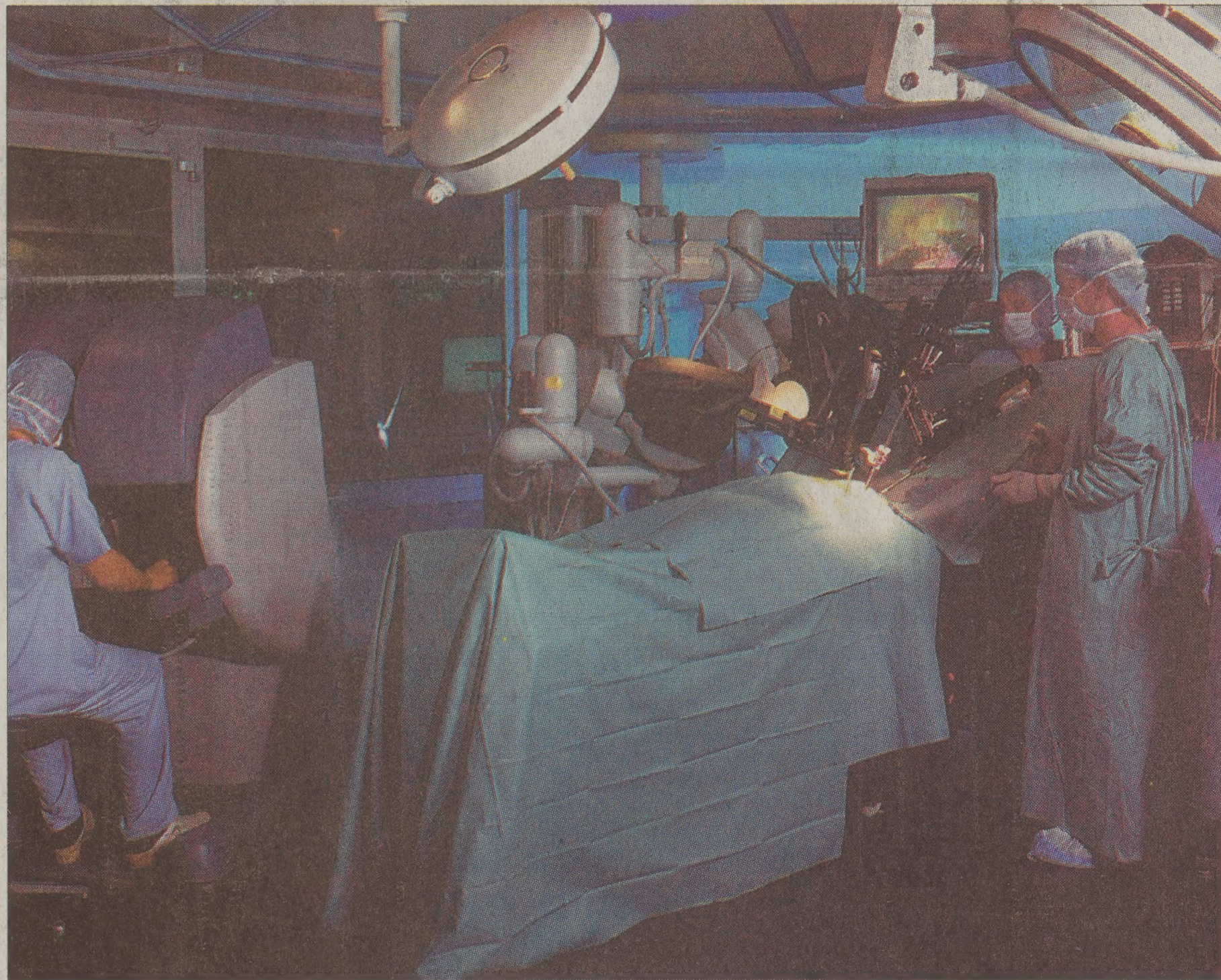
Elder Packer gave instruction to use the Holy Ghost for guidance when making decisions.

"We know what is right and what is wrong. We all know. It is a very important thing to understand," Elder Packer said.

Although everyone knows what is right and wrong, everyone makes mistakes, he said.

The gospel is a gospel of repentance. Repentance is a mathematical equation. Repentance equals forgiveness," Elder Packer said.

Renaissance robot



A new breakthrough in medical technology allows for a robot to perform surgery. The da Vinci surgical system will make it possible for patients to achieve a speedy recovery.

New surgical robot performs surgery that causes less pain and shortens recovery time

By STACEY REED

The Salt Lake Regional Medical Center will be the first in Utah to receive a helping hand from a surgical robot, known as the da Vinci surgical system — a revolutionized method of performing surgery that causes less pain and expedite recovery time.

The center received the system in December and will be implementing it through the beginning of February.

The da Vinci system, created by Intuitive Surgical in Sunnyvale,

Calif., was first thought of in 1995 and approved by the Food and Drug Administration in July of 2000.

"The da Vinci, which operates in 90 different hospitals in the United States and over 130 worldwide medical centers, benefits patients with less trauma, fewer blood clots, smaller incisions and faster recovery," said Sara Norton of investor relations at Intuitive Surgical.

The FDA has approved certain procedures for the machine such as prostate removals, gastric bypasses and chest surgeries excluding

See *ROBOT* on Page 3

Groundhog predicts 6 more weeks of winter

By AMANDA HEINER



Photo by Amanda Heiner

Punxsutawney Phil hid back inside his cave Sunday, declaring another six weeks of winter.

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Penn. — Punxsutawney Phil predicted another six weeks of winter Sunday in front of almost 25,000 people.

As expected, the acclaimed groundhog saw his shadow Sunday. Although the translation of his predictable behavior dwells more in legend than fact, the odds are in winter's favor. Approximately 97 percent of the time, Phil sees his shadow and hibernates for another six weeks.

Punxsy, as the locals call it, is a zoo this time of year — and appropriately so. On a normal day, 6,500 call the small town home.

On the Saturday before, residents set up at "the park," an open grassy knoll in the center of town with a life-size wood carved Groundhog. There they began the festivities with live music from Paul Order who plays more than 20 instruments.

Several barbeque stands waft the smell of "hog on the knob" pork barbeque across the green.

Hundreds of local and commercial vendors tote their wares to tourists and locals who want a piece of the action.

Members of the inner circle, the holiday's 15-member leadership council, mingled with their constituency near the large wooden groundhog to shake hands, kiss babies, and be available for photos

See *GROUNDHOG* on Page 3

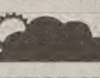
[Weather]



TODAY

Sunny

High 42, low 22



TUESDAY

Partly cloudy

High 37, low 24

YESTERDAY

High 38, low 27, as of 5 p.m.

PRECIPITATION

Yesterday: 0.3"

Month to date: 0.3"

Year to date: 0.92"

Sources: CNN.com, BYU Geography Dept.

Vol. 57, Issue 92

THE DAILY
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BRIEFING



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Reuters

Firefighters extinguish a car belonging to local reporters after supporters of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez set fire to it during clashes in Caracas on Sunday. Foes of Chavez turned out in large numbers to cast a symbolic vote against him, signing a petition for early elections after opposition leaders said they were scaling back a two-month strike.

Petition signed to cut Venezuelan president's term

CARACAS (AP) — Opponents of President Hugo Chavez began focusing on a petition driver to cut his term in power Saturday, after agreeing to ease a two-month strike that has crippled Venezuela's economy.

Opposition leaders planned to hold what they called the "Great Sign-up" on Sunday, inviting citizens to sign various initiatives rejecting Chavez's government and seeking his ouster.

The opposition hopes one petition in particular — a constitutional amendment to reduce Chavez's term from six to four years — will succeed, paving the way for general elections later this year.

Under the constitution, organizers need signatures from 15 percent, or about 1.8 million, of the country's 12 million registered voters — a

number they expect to easily surpass.

"Our idea is to get 5 million signatures," Carlos Ocariz, a member of the opposition party Justice First, said Saturday on Globovision television.

The amendment was one of two proposals made by Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President Jimmy Carter. The other is to hold a recall referendum on Chavez's rule halfway through his six-year term, in August. The opposition also collected signatures for this initiative Sunday.

Representatives from the United States, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Portugal and Spain met in Caracas on Friday to urge both sides to accept one of Carter's proposals and bring Venezuela's prolonged crisis to a swift end.

Journalists released

SARAVENA — Two foreign journalists held hostage by leftist rebels for 11 days were freed Saturday in eastern Colombia.

Photographer Scott Dalton, 34, of Conroe, Texas, and Ruth Morris, a British citizen raised in California, arrived in a Red Cross van at the Saravena airport near the Venezuelan border.

Dalton and Morris waved at reporters at the airport, both smiling and looking in good spirits.

They then boarded a Red Cross plane, apparently headed to Bogota, the capital.

The National Liberation Army, or ELN, abducted Morris and Dalton on Jan. 21 in eastern Arauca province while the freelance journalists were on assignment for The Los Angeles Times.

They were the first foreign journalists abducted in Colombia's four-decade war.



Reuters

Russia launches rocket

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia launched an unmanned cargo ship to the international space station Sunday, a day after the loss of the space shuttle Columbia threw into doubt future missions to the orbiting complex.

The Progress M-47 lifted off atop a Soyuz-U rocket from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan at 3:59 p.m. and entered orbit a few minutes later, said Nikolai Kryuchkov, a spokesman at Russia's mission control center outside Moscow.

The craft is scheduled to dock with the station Tuesday, delivering fuel, equipment, food and mail for the three-astronaut crew — a Russian commander and two Americans.

The long-planned launch came as stunned Russian space officials offered condolences for the astronauts — six Americans and one Israeli — killed when the Columbia disintegrated shortly before it was to have landed Saturday morning.

They said the disaster may put Moscow's cash-strapped space program under more pressure to deliver crews and supplies to the station.



Reuters

The Russian Progress cargo rocket, powered by a Soyuz-U booster, blasts off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome on Sunday. Progress, carrying fuel and food to the international space station, blasted off a day after the Columbia shuttle broke up in mid-air, killing seven astronauts.

EXPLOSION LEVELS STREET

An explosion demolished a block of flats and tore open the bank in central Lagos, Nigeria, on Sunday, killing several people, witnesses and rescue workers said.

Nigerian bank explodes

LAGOS, NIGERIA (AP) — A powerful explosion tore apart a bank and dozens of apartments above it Sunday in Nigeria's crowded commercial capital, killing at least 40 people and trapping many others, relief workers said.

Looting and bloody fights broke out after the blast as hundreds of young men grabbed fistfuls of cash from the leveled bank and battled over them.

In the chaos, trapped victims cried for rescue and onlookers wailed as rescuers retrieved bloody, broken bodies.

The Red Cross said searchers had recovered more than 30 dead and 32 injured. Ten of the wounded died later at Lagos General Hospital, hospital workers said.

Many more victims were believed caught in the rubble, and the death toll could rise, said Emmanuel Ijewere, president of the Nigeria Red Cross.

Avalanche kills seven

REVELSTOKE, CANADA (AP) — Another avalanche in a region of eastern British Columbia killed seven skiers Saturday — all of them high-school students, authorities said.

The dead were six boys and one girl, all in Grade 10 at the Strathcona-Tweedsmuir School, a private institution about 12 miles south of Calgary, Alberta.

"We are absolutely stricken with grief. Our hearts go out to all those who are impacted," said Tony Macoun, head of the school.

There were 17 people in the school group, three adults and 14 students in an outdoor education class, on their annual cross-country ski trip.

The leaders of the group were two male teachers and a male volunteer. All three leaders had certification and backcountry experience, Macoun said.

The 10 survivors were airlifted to Glacier Park Lodge by helicopter.



Students received grief counseling after a deadly ski trip.

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GROUNDHOG

Punxsutawney Phil predicts another six weeks of winter

Continued from Page 1

and questioning. Fire-eaters, wood cutting again saw artists and ice carvers created a carnival atmosphere while crews set up their cameras and microphones to record the event.

Phil wasn't scheduled to make a appearance until 7:25 a.m., but a few of the audience spent the night on the knob. Most of the audience began the trek to the hill before 3 a.m.

The festivities began with fireworks lighting the sky and a local sang the national anthem prior to the inner circle making the trek to the knob to disturb Phil and his shadow.

Past council president Bud Dunkel said he and his fellow council members would spend all year planning this event.

"The last three months before the celebration, there's a meeting every week," Dunkel said. "During the week of the celebration, there's a meeting every night. The rest of the year, we hibernate."

The inner circle members, clad in their formal all-black attire and telling top hats, are easy to spot around town.

Current president Bob Cooper said the top hat tradition stems from the custom of welcoming European dignitaries upon arriving in New York. "We wanted to show Phil that kind of respect," Cooper said.

As swinging as this scene might seem, Groundhog Day is a gift for everyone. One resident boasted that in 47 years she had never been "up on that knob."

"You have to have the Groundhog gene," Cooper said. "Just because you live here doesn't mean you have the gene and just because you don't live here doesn't mean you don't have it. It's a pilgrimage you have to make once in a lifetime."

Jan and Harry Niemeyer have the gene. Jan was born on the coveted date which makes her a member of the Groundhog club, should she choose to join. If that wasn't enough, she and her husband Harry celebrated their third anniversary Saturday.

They are only one of hundreds of couples who hold their weddings on Groundhog Day in Punxsutawney.

Alan Bish, a student at Punxsutawney High School, said while the tourists are more fanatical than the people that live in town, it's still his favorite holiday.

"It's not just some holiday in some third rate town, it's part of America," Bish said. "It's not just tradition here, but all over the world."

Punxsutawney wasn't always so popular. The 1993 Harold Ramis film "Groundhog Day" has had a tremendous affect on the community, swelling February crowds to numbers in the thousands.

Punxsutawney residents both bless and curse the movie for bringing the tourists.

"I didn't care for the movie," said local resident Wendy Bish. "I think it depicted us as being hicks and there very intelligent people that are from this town."

"It's a very small town. We don't have big manufacturing plants here so people don't make

very much an hour," she added. "The cost of living is so cheap here too. You can get a three bedroom house here and only pay \$250 a month mortgage."

Wendy Bish said she is glad for the money but reluctant to thank Hollywood for it.

Aside from the poor impression the movie gave of "dear Punxsy," Bish said she objects to the town adopting antics from the movie, rather than the movie accurately depicting the town.

Dunkel said he could still remember the town's astonishment when they saw the crowds that gathered for the Groundhog celebration the year after the movie premiered.

"There was a big difference," he said. "Typically, we'd get 3,000 maybe 4,000. When the movie came out, the first year it was frightening. We were up there on that knob and we were looking out at a crowd of maybe 30,000."

Although German immigrants brought the holiday to Pennsylvania, the United States is the only country to celebrate Groundhog Day.

According to Cooper, Candlemas Day, a traditional German holiday; and mid-winter solstice, also celebrated on Feb. 2.

In 1887, the German immigrants who populated that distant Punxsutawney made the first trek to Gobbler's Knob.

"When the settlers came they found there was no native hedgehog," Cooper said. "But groundhogs were plentiful — so he became the forecasting marmot of choice."

NewsNet reporter Kira Cluff contributed to this story.



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SHUTTLE

Accident hits close to home for two Y students

Continued from Page 1

An O'Keefe named a former navy admiral to oversee an independent review of the accident, Dunkel said. Dunkel said investigators initially would focus on whether a broken piece of insulation from the external fuel tank caused damage to the shuttle during liftoff Jan. 16 that ultimately doomed the flight 16 days later.

"It's one of the areas we're looking at first, early, to make sure that the investigative team is concentrating on that theory," O'Keefe said.

The insulation is believed to have struck a section of the shuttle's left side.

The manufacturer of the fuel tank disclosed Sunday that NASA used an older version of the tank, which the space agency was phasing out in 2000. NASA's preflight press information stated the shuttle was using the newer super-lightweight fuel tanks.

Harry Wadsworth, a spokesman for Lockheed, the tank maker, said most shuttle tanks use the "super-lightweight" tank and the older version is no longer made. Wadsworth said he did not know there was a difference in how insulation was installed on the types of tanks.

Wadsworth said the tank used on the Columbia mission was manufactured in November and delivered to NASA the month. Only one more of the older tanks is left, he said.

O'Keefe emphasized that the agency was being careful to lock onto any one theory soon. He vowed to "leave absolutely no stone unturned." For a second day, searchers combed forests and rural areas 500 square miles of East and western Louisiana for

bits of metal, ceramic tile, computer chips and insulation from the shattered spacecraft.

State and federal officials, treating the investigation like a multi-county crime scene, were protecting the debris until it can be catalogued, carefully collected and then trucked to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana.

The effort to reconstruct what is left of Columbia into a rough outline of the shuttle will be tedious and painstaking.

When a shuttle piece was located this weekend, searchers left it in place until a precise global position satellite reading could be taken. Each shuttle part is numbered; NASA officials say experts hope to trace the falling path of each recovered piece.

The goal is to establish a sequence of how parts were ripped off Columbia as it endured the intense heat and pressure of the high-speed re-entry into the atmosphere.

Other experts, including metallurgist and forensic medicine specialists, are expected to join the investigation. Their focus will be on a microscopic examination of debris and remains that could elicit clues such as how hot the metal became, how it twisted and which parts flew off first.

Saturday events hit close to home for two BYU students.

Gary and Nicki Dittmore are the children of space shuttle program manager Ron Dittmore, who has fielded questions from the media as an official representative for NASA during this catastrophe.

"It's been a very sad and grievous day," Nicki Dittmore said. "This hits close to home and we're just praying for the families this affected."

NewsNet reporter John Crockett contributed to this story.

ROBOT

New robotic device will make it easier for patients to recover

Continued from Page 1

cardiac, Norton said.

The device is a tall machine with three arms that have two hands holding instruments and the other holding a microscope-like camera.

Unlike conventional surgery, the da Vinci is a system that allows a surgeon to control the surgical procedure while sitting in a console in the corner or in another room looking at a 3-D image of the area.

Once the instruments are in position, the surgeon holds instrument manipulators that respond to the surgeon's finger and thumb movements, making incisions in parts of the body.

One of the big advantages with this system is the size of the incisions, Norton said. Most are huge, especially for complicated procedures, but with the da Vinci, the incisions are

"Da Vinci gives the surgeons a sense of touch."

Sara Norton
Intuitive Surgical

extremely small.

"The da Vinci gives the surgeons a sense of touch and simulates a surgical field," Norton said.

Fran Byrne, director of Peri-Operative Services at Salt Lake Regional, said procedures like heart surgeries are usually extremely painful, requiring six to eight weeks of recovery, but the da Vinci allows patients to return to full active life much sooner.

"The real advantages to having this machine is that certain

procedures are done with small incisions, less pain, less risk of infection and less recovery time," Byrne said.

In addition to patient benefits, the da Vinci profits surgeons.

Byrne said surgeons have better visualization with 3-D images, more movement with the robot's three 360-degree elbows and more control with precise incisions.

Salt Lake Regional is sending three teams of surgeons to a da Vinci training session in the next few months, Byrne said.

However, Byrne said although the new technology is exciting, people cannot ignore the financial downside to the da Vinci.

"The da Vinci instruments are extremely expensive so cost must be added to the procedure," Byrne said.

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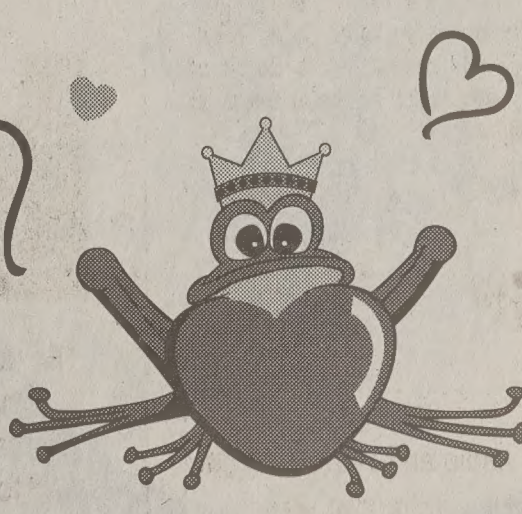
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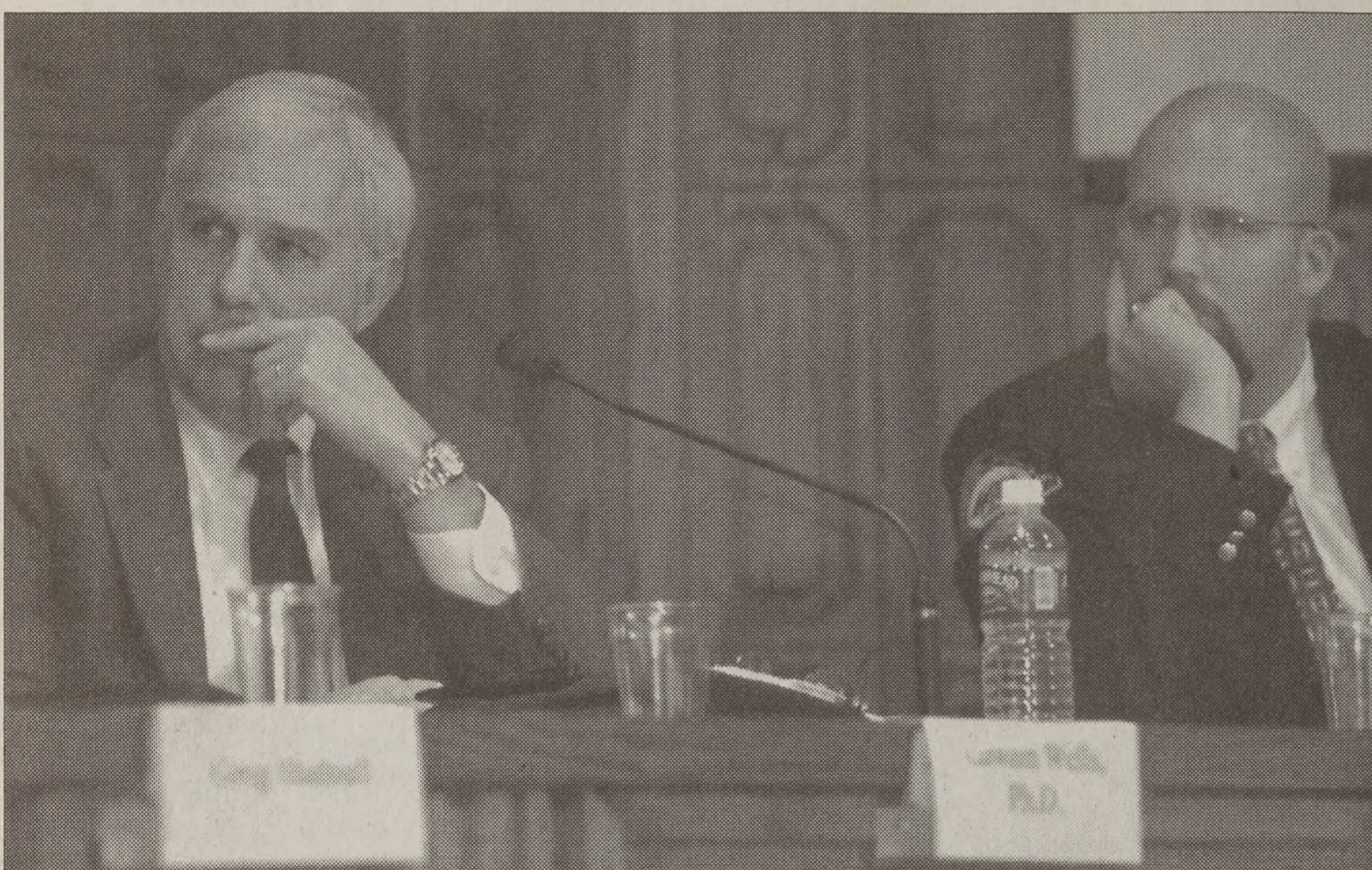
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Panel members listen to concerns from audience members at a suicide information meeting Thursday at the Provo City Center.

City hosts suicide forum

City hall meeting unites voices of clergy, school officials, mental health professionals

By ELIZABETH CARLSTON

With the recent suicide of a Copper Hills High School sophomore in West Jordan, Salt Lake County, some Provo community members felt an urgency to discuss suicide prevention at a Provo City Center meeting Thursday.

"We have come here to talk about a topic that is heavy," Provo Mayor Lewis Billings said. "Suicide is never an option. Life is always the answer."

Utah ranks 10th in the nation in the rate of completed suicides, where suicide is the leading cause of death for males aged 15-44. The Provo School District has had 10 suicide completions in the last five years, with elementary students among the victims.

A panel of community mental health, school and clergy professionals answered audience questions and provided information for support services available.

"Our goal is to educate every citizen in this valley about suicide, the warning signs and where to go for help," said Greg Hudnall, Provo School District director of student services. "This is not a school problem; this is a community problem. The only way we are going to make a difference is to combine our time, our talents and our resources to reach out to every young person who believes suicide is an option."

BYU professor Gwain Wells identified four risk factors and signs of a person who may be considering suicide: mental illness, feeling of isolation, having had a parent or close relative commit suicide, and impulsiveness.

"They may be agitated, upset, searching for solutions and not be able to find any until you come to that one (solution) and it feels like the only one," Gwain said.

Chaplain Dean Jackson of the Provo Police

Department compared suicide to getting trapped in a corner.

"The further they get in the corner, the less options they have," Jackson said. "Our job isn't to get them out of the corner, but to stop them for a moment so they can realize what they are doing."

"We need a community that really cares," Wells said. "We need people who will say, how are you? Fine. No, how are you really? ... You seem kind of down, let's talk about it."

In collaboration with community professionals, the Provo City School District established the suicide prevention task force HOPE. It stands for Hold On, Persuade, Escape.

There are several signs to look for in a person who may be contemplating suicide. Feelings of hopelessness, low self-esteem, a loss of any kind, or drastic change in behavior are all red flags, according to a HOPE brochure.

Students with friends who may be contemplating suicide must tell someone they trust, Hudnall said. There have been too many occasions when someone "knew about it, but did not tell someone else," he said.

Some may think they will betray a friend's trust if they seek outside help, but such is not the case, Hudnall said.

"It is short term pain, but long term gain," he said.

Task force member Dr. Kenneth Tuttle said the suicide prevention program will "reduce the incidence of teen suicide through education and awareness, build better support networks for at risk teens, and get professional help for those in crisis."

The Provo City task force plans to fight suicide by educating the community. A portable display booth will be placed at major community events. In addition to other support services, the task force has organized a community suicide conference April 12, to be hosted by BYU.

"We want to support in any way we can," said Brad Farnsworth, administrative vice president at BYU. "We can share our resources with the community. If we focus on the doctrine of the gospel, that will always be a core solution to these things."

Identity theft tops FTC complaint

By AARON MCCULLOUGH

Identity theft topped the Federal Trade Commission's list of consumer complaints for the third year in a row in 2002, according to the recently released FTC annual report.

The FTC recorded 380,000 cases of identity fraud in 2002, up from 220,000 cases the year before, an increase of 73 percent.

Dollar losses associated with identity fraud are also on the rise, according to the FTC's report. Consumers reported losses of \$343 million in 2002, more than double the \$160 million reported stolen in 2000.

Brice Williams, of Orem, has been the victim of identity fraud three times. Each time, the thief used a new method to steal money using Williams' credit cards or personal information.

"The first time, my wallet was stolen out of my truck," Williams said. "The second time, we don't know how they got our credit card number."

The bank absorbed the bills in both cases, according to Williams.

The third time was more serious.

The FTC recorded 380,000 cases of identity fraud in 2002, up from 220,000 cases the year before, an increase of 73 percent.

"The police came to the door with a warrant for my arrest and a court date, and I had no idea why," he said. "A gentleman in Salt Lake City used my Social Security number and birth date to establish credit and open up a post office box at Mail Boxes Etc. He was ordering stuff and not paying for it, which amounted to more than \$100,000."

"How he got my information, I don't know, but apparently it's not all that hard to get," Williams said. "What they can do is beyond the scope of most people's imagination."

Williams is one of the many Americans whose lives are affected each year by identity theft.

"I received a cell phone bill for an account I had never opened," said Christine Mann, of New York City.

"Someone had opened an account, got a free phone card, then closed it the next day. The bill was over \$400 for the card, breaking the contract."

Mann was told by the credit bureaus to use a password to secure her credit accounts.

"I do not use my maiden name anymore for anything — it's too easy to find," Mann said. "I have picked a new password."

According to the FTC's of Web site, identity thieves get personal information in a variety of ways, including stealing impersonating a landlord or going through residential business trash, a practice known as dumpster diving.

The FTC's Web site offers on how to avoid personal identity theft.

"Don't give out personal information on the phone, through mail or over the Internet until you've initiated the contact to ensure you know who you're dealing with," the site says.

The FTC's Web site suggests checking credit records regularly and ordering and verifying credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies every year.

Bill: Wolves shouldn't be endangered

By CASI HERBST

SALT LAKE CITY — The Grey Wolf could be removed from the endangered species list if a new resolution, which will be looked at early this week, passes through the House and Senate.

The proponent of the resolution Rep. Micheal Styler said the recent population increase of Western Grey Wolves, Canis Lupus, no longer warrants the title of endangered.

He opposes wolves being implemented in Utah, a proposal put forth by Utah State University, and said there are not enough resources for the wolves in Utah mountains.

He is not alone. Mike Bodenchuk Utah field director for wildlife services agrees.

"As a biologist I feel a suitable environment for the wolves is lacking (in Utah)," Bodenchuk said.

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Bill could give highway patrol more unmarked cars

By KYLE MONSON

SALT LAKE CITY — A bill allowing the Utah Highway Patrol to increase the number of unmarked patrol cars was unanimously approved Thursday in a Senate committee meeting.

The Senate Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Standing Committee sent Senate Bill 106 to the Senate floor with a favorable status.

SB 106, if approved by the Senate, will modify the Utah Vehicles Code, which currently allows highway patrolmen to utilize only one unmarked car for each operation.

The proposed bill allows the highway patrol to use an unlimited number of unmarked patrol

cars in its fleet.

"The highway patrol needs all the tools available at its disposal to keep control of traffic," said Rep. DeMar "Bud" Bowman, who presented the bill to the Senate committee.

Highway patrolmen present to support the bill were quick to point out that they will be accountable for the use of the unmarked vehicles, and that they prefer marked cars for most purposes.

"It's not our intent to abuse this whatsoever," said Col. Scott Duncan. "Our mission is to reduce crashes; we don't want to 'sneak around.'"

The bill included an amendment meant to give the committee the responsibility of regulating the use of any new

unmarked patrol cars. The amendment required highway patrol officials to report to the committee three times a year on their use.

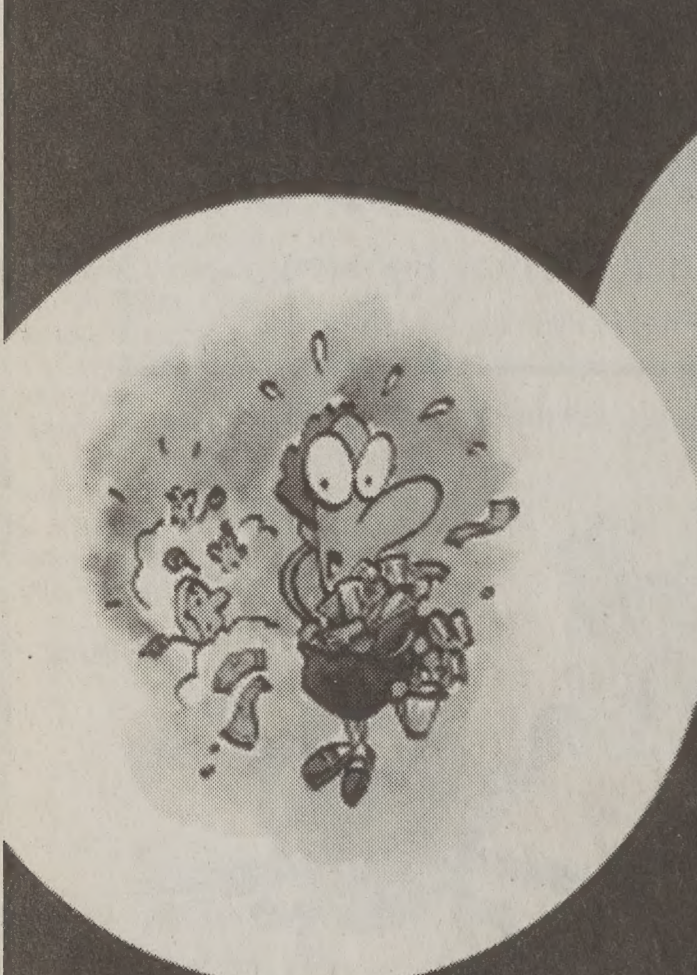
The committee, however, said such frequent reports were unnecessary, and rejected the amendment.

"The committee was hostile to that idea," said Sen. Greg Bell, committee chairman.

Trooper Randall Akers testified to the committee that the lack of unmarked patrol cars hampered the highway patrol's efforts to catch "aggressive drivers" — drivers who commit three moving violations concurrently.

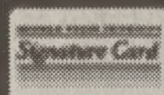
Aggressive drivers search attentively for highway patrol cars and know where they hide, he said.

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH SCHEDULE OF Events



The Wiz starring Michael Jackson and Diana Ross will be featured as part of the Black History Month movies on campus.

TUESDAY FEB. 4

African Renaissance A presentation of the people and events of the African Renaissance will be at 7 p.m. in 3223 of the Wilkinson Student Center.

THURSDAY FEB. 6

Sociology Lecture, "The Emergence of Black Sociologists," featuring Dr. Ann England and Dr. Carol Ward at 11 a.m. in 3250 of the Wilkinson Student Center.

SATURDAY FEB. 8

Annual Blues Night/Poetry Jam will be at 8 p.m. in the WSC Main Ballroom. An open-mike poetry reading and a performance of a local band will be part of the night's events. The cost will be \$2 with student ID and \$3 without.

THURSDAY FEB. 13

Student Panel An open discussion with members of the Black Student Association will be at 7 p.m. in W111 of the BNSN.

FRIDAY FEB. 14

Dance at the Terrace activities Students will perform a tap dance routine at the WSC Terrace at noon.

SATURDAY FEB. 15

Annual African American Children's Fair, an event with games, prizes, hair care tips, and video will give children from the community an opportunity to learn more about and meet others from African American background. The fair will be from 1-4 p.m. in the WSC Garden Court. Admission is free.

TUESDAY FEB. 18

Henderson Lecture Juan Henderson of the religion department will speak at the Black Student Union meeting at 7 p.m. in 3223 of the WSC.

THURSDAY FEB. 20

Multicultural Adoption Lecture, featuring Dr. Sharon E. Rush from University of Florida, will be at 11 a.m. in 3380 of the Wilkinson Student Center.

Black Boy Charles Holt, a Broadway performer will perform excerpts of Lorraine Hansberry's "Black Boy" in a one man show at 7 p.m. in the WSC Varsity Theatre. Admission is free.

SATURDAY FEB. 22

Black Train '70s Dance, to be in the East Ballroom. A special BYUSA talent show will begin at 7 p.m. with the dance following at 8:30 p.m. The cost will be \$2 with student ID and \$3 without.

TUESDAY FEB. 25

Inspiring Stories of Church Pioneers in Africa A special presentation will be given at the Black Student Union meeting at 7 p.m. in 3223 of the Wilkinson Student Center.

THURSDAY FEB. 27

Religion Lecture Darius Gray of LDS Genesis will speak on the priesthood revelation of 1978 and blacks in the history of the LDS Church. The lecture will be at 11 a.m. in 3223 of Wilkinson Student Center.

The Wiz, with Michael Jackson and Diana Ross will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the WSC Varsity Theatre as the final film of Black History Month.

FRIDAY FEB. 28

Dance Competition featuring Hip Hop Nation performing freestyle will be at noon in the WSC Terrace.

BYU honors Black History

By EMILIE CASSAN

Throughout the month of February, BYU students will have the opportunity to join with the rest of North America in celebrating Black History Month.

Jim Slaughter, assistant director of Multicultural Student Services, said this month will give students the opportunity to see another side of American history.

"Black history is American history, too," he said.

Members of the Black Student Union and Multicultural Student Services have planned activities such as lectures, a children's fair, a poetry reading and dance in order to give students the chance to learn about the important events associated with black history.

"Hopefully, it will give students a greater appreciation of the African American culture and the contributions they have made to society," Slaughter said.

Kulve Vann, 22, a sophomore from Milledgeville, Ga., majoring in marriage, family and human development, is the president of the Black Student Union. He said he hopes Black History Month will give students a desire to learn about the importance of this month in their lives.

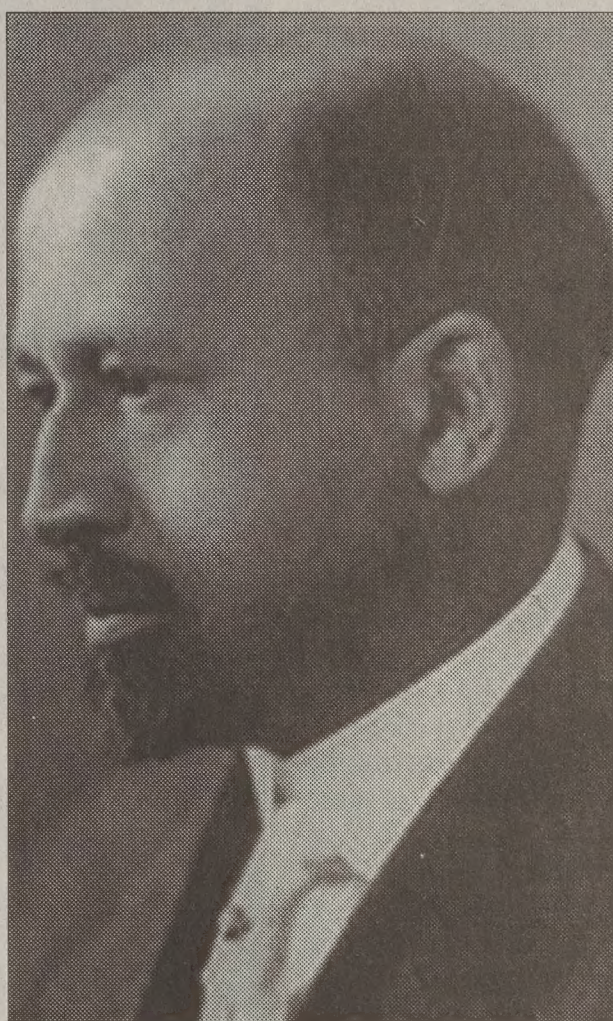
"I want everyone to see that Black History Month is about everybody and not just about the 144 black students at BYU," he said.

According to Slaughter, Black History Month has been celebrated at BYU for at least 10 years, but it has been celebrated longer in the United States and Canada.

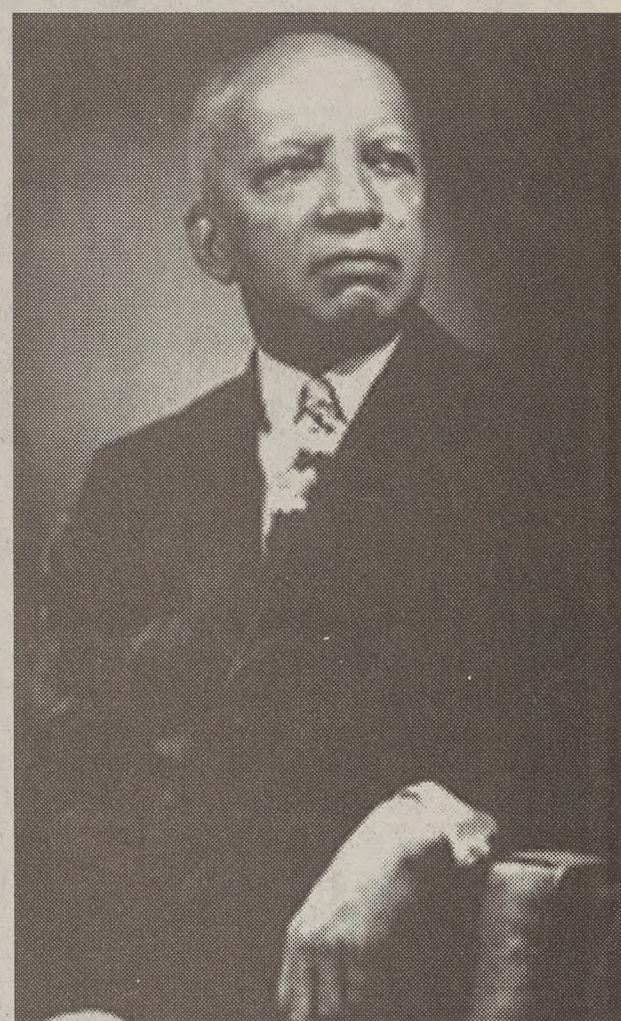
Black History Month began in 1926 as Negro History Week by Dr. Carter J. Woodson.

Woodson, the son of former slaves, grew up in Kentucky working in coal mines. He enrolled in high school when he was 20 years old, finished in two years and earned a doctorate at Harvard.

Some of Woodson's goals were to correct ignorance and misunderstanding of black



Black History Month celebrates the work of W.E.B. Dubois, left, a cofounder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Dr. Carter J. Woodson, right, who began Negro History Week in 1926.



history and make sure it was part of America's history.

In 1915, he began the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, which is now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. The next year, he founded the Journal of Negro History.

In 1926, he began Negro History Week in an effort to bring black history to the attention of all Americans.

The week was celebrated during the second week of February in commemoration of the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln, who issued the Emancipation Proclamation that freed black slaves, and of Frederick Douglass, a leader of the abolitionist movement.

glass, a leader of the abolitionist movement.

In 1976, the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History changed Negro History Week to Black History Month.

Black History Month continues to be celebrated each year in February, a month that marks many significant events in black history.

Some of those events include the birth of W.E.B. Dubois in 1868, cofounder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the passing of the 15th amendment in 1870, which gave blacks the right to vote; the establishment of the NAACP in 1909; and the assassination of militant leader Malcolm X.

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Students decry downsides of UTA contract

UTA deal comes with a price for students

By STACEY WISMER

Student drivers will have a new reason to ride the bus in the fall with the price of parking permits increasing by three times.

The renewal of BYU's contract with the Utah Transit Authority created mixed reactions, as the increase in parking permits from \$15 to \$60 will compensate for free bus rides.

"The people using the bus should pay for it, instead of passing it on to the other extreme," said Aaron Pacini, 23, a business management major from Salt Lake City.

However, even with an increase in parking fees, the majority of students were in favor of continuing the free bus service, according to an online survey and many other discussions, said Carri Jenkins, assistant to the president for University Communications.

"The survey was sent to every student, and every student had an opportunity to respond," she said.

Pacini said the survey was a misrepresentation of the student population.

"If I see a UTA survey on my e-mail, I just delete it," Pacini said, assuming that the e-mail did not concern him.

The people who took the survey use the bus service, suggesting they don't have cars, and therefore they don't care if there is an increase in parking fees, he said.

Many students who ride the bus don't seem to mind that UTA's compensation will come from

their fellow student drivers.

"It doesn't bother me, I don't have a car," said Robyn Hoover, 20, majoring in elementary education, from Frederick, Md. "If you're going to have a car, you might as well pay the extra."

Some students suggested there will be less congestion on the roads.

However, many students who buy parking permits don't drive to school, but must use the permits to park at their own apartment complex.

"What about the people like us that don't commute to school?" said Megan Richardson, 19, a sophomore from Ogden, Weber County, majoring in health sciences.

Because of the limited number of parking spaces at Richardson's complex, her roommates park at the Y lot next to their apartments.

"I don't ride the bus, and it's not free if I have to pay for it through a parking pass," said Meghan Mitchell, Richardson's roommate and a sophomore from Ogden, majoring in accounting.

Students at Wyview and Wymount Apartments also buy BYU parking permits just to park at their own complex.

"Some people are just going to have to take the hit," said Dan Mecham, 23, from Glendale, Ariz., majoring in information systems.

Jenkins said increasing the price of parking fees was the only option if BYU wished to continue its contract with UTA.

However, other colleges and universities in Utah have found alternatives to increasing parking fees, while still offering "free" bus services.

For example, at the University of Utah, every student is assessed an extra 85 cents per credit hour



Photo by Marilyn Lau

BYU recently renewed its contract for students to ride UTA buses free, but the renewal is accompanied by an increased price on parking permits. The permits, which used to cost students \$15, will now cost \$60.

each semester to compensate UTA, said Alma Allred, director of commuter services.

In Utah Valley State College's decision to renew their contract with UTA, several options are being considered, said Steve Jackson, director of parking and transportation.

UVSC is working with Orem

City to encourage property owners near UVSC to finance a continuing contract with UTA, he said.

Weber State is also considering an eco-pass contract with UTA.

"I'm scared of the impact it will have on parking fees," said Lisa Martinez, parking manager.

Palestinian leader urges involvement

By DEANNA DEVEY

A Palestinian ambassador visited BYU campus Friday and told students they could make a difference in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"My only request is just to get engaged and try to do the right thing, and I think you'll make a difference," said Dr. M. Nasser Al-Kidwa, ambassador and permanent observer of Palestine to the United Nations.

It is very significant that Al-Kidwa came to Utah Valley, said Brad Cook, vice-president for academic affairs at Utah Valley State College.

"He is the primary spokesman for the Palestinian people to the U.N.," Cook said. "The U.N. plays a major role in the current events in the Middle East. He's very influential."

Al-Kidwa answered students' questions about the relationships between Palestine and the United States.

He said that since the United States is the most influential country, the responsibilities of living here are huge.

Maybe it is time to know a little more and influence the actual decisions, Al-Kidwa said.

One student asked about Palestine signing a constitu-

tion.

"It is not fair for anyone even the U.S., to ask the Palestinian people to adopt a Constitution before independence," Al-Kidwa said. "We have to understand you cannot achieve real government and democracy under occupation. You cannot do that when Israeli tanks are in Ramallah — that's not possible."

The Palestinian people strive for real democracy, but said he thinks that will only happen when the Palestinian people feel free.

Real democracy is something we want to do, we strive to do, Al-Kidwa said. "But I believe it will not be achieved until the establishment of our nation's independence."

He said the Palestinians own more than half the land.

"These people have the right to some kind of solution to human beings," Al-Kidwa said.

Al-Kidwa said that someone had once told him Palestine was a permanent member of U.N. Security Council. He disagreed. "(Palestine is) permanent casualty of Security Council."

Utah Valley State College International Center coordinated the ambassador's visit through contacts in New York, Cook said.

Celebrity game, auction helps women's athletics

By DEANNA DEVEY

Saturday, Cougar fans watched basketball games with Bigelow, Thorn and — Sheri Dew.

In an effort to raise money for BYU women's athletics, a celebrity basketball game and auction took place at the Marriott Center.

Elaine Michaelis, director of women's athletics, said the event, with its live auction and

celebrity basketball game, is the first ever on behalf of women's athletics.

The fund-raising entertainment began after the men's victory against New Mexico where the celebrities took the court.

Local celebrities including Thurl Bailey, Ruth Todd, Sheri Dew and Gary Crowton did playing, coaching, commenting, scorekeeping and refereeing.

After the game, there was the live auction.

Honors symposium to explore the creative process

By TASHA SOTOMAYOR

Honors students at BYU will be getting more creative Feb. 7 and 8 at the Honors Student Advisory Council Symposium.

The symposium will explore the creative processes among students with a performance by the

Faculty Jazz Quintet and a panel discussion featuring writers Dean T. Hughes and Louise Plummer, painter Al Rounds, director Richard Dutcher and BYU professor Kerry Soper.

Each speaker on the panel will take five to 10 minutes discussing his or her own thoughts on the creative processes, and then the

panel will open up for questions.

The panel will also address how students can apply spiritual aspects of learning into any academic pursuit, said Chris Rees, 23, a junior majoring in economics and political science.

The symposium will accommodate 400 committed honors students and is free of charge.

The sessions are open to everyone.

In order to attend the symposium, honors students must RSVP at saugus.byu.edu/honors no later than midnight Tuesday.

"We're focusing on a specific part of creativity," said Heather Jacques, 19, a senior from Salt Lake City.

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Cougars sweep UCLA in two games

By STEPHEN VINCENT

BYU swept UCLA, college volleyball's most prestigious program, in consecutive matches for just the second time in school history on Friday and Saturday.

Saturday's 34-32, 30-26, 30-15 victory was BYU's most lopsided win since a 30-25, 30-15, 30-25 win over UC-Diego.

Despite the impressive wins, BYU members downplayed their importance.

"To tell you the truth, that's not the toughest UCLA team they've had," junior Jonathon Alleman. "It's really probably one of the weaker."

"I think you have to take some things into consideration when you're talking about UCLA: that's the toughest team you'll ever see from UCLA," BYU coach Tom Peterson. "Their best player (All-American Carlos Morrow) was hurt. That's not a team you'll see in a couple of weeks. They're ranked No. 7 and we hope they'll go down, so it's not a No. 1 ranked UCLA team."

While UCLA (4-5 overall, 1-4 Mountain West Conference) may be struggling, the Bruins hadn't been at this season until they came to Provo. Not even No. 1 UC Irvine had managed that feat, requiring the full games to beat the Bruins on Jan.

"To beat UCLA six straight in consecutive matches, you got to like it," Peterson said.

BYU started the weekend with a 30-27, 30-26 win that came because of a well-run offense by Cougar setter Carlos Moreno. Moreno also earned side outs on 59 of UCLA's serves in the match — for a phenomenal recent sideout percentage.

After its season-opening matches saw the focus on Alleman, BYU had six play-

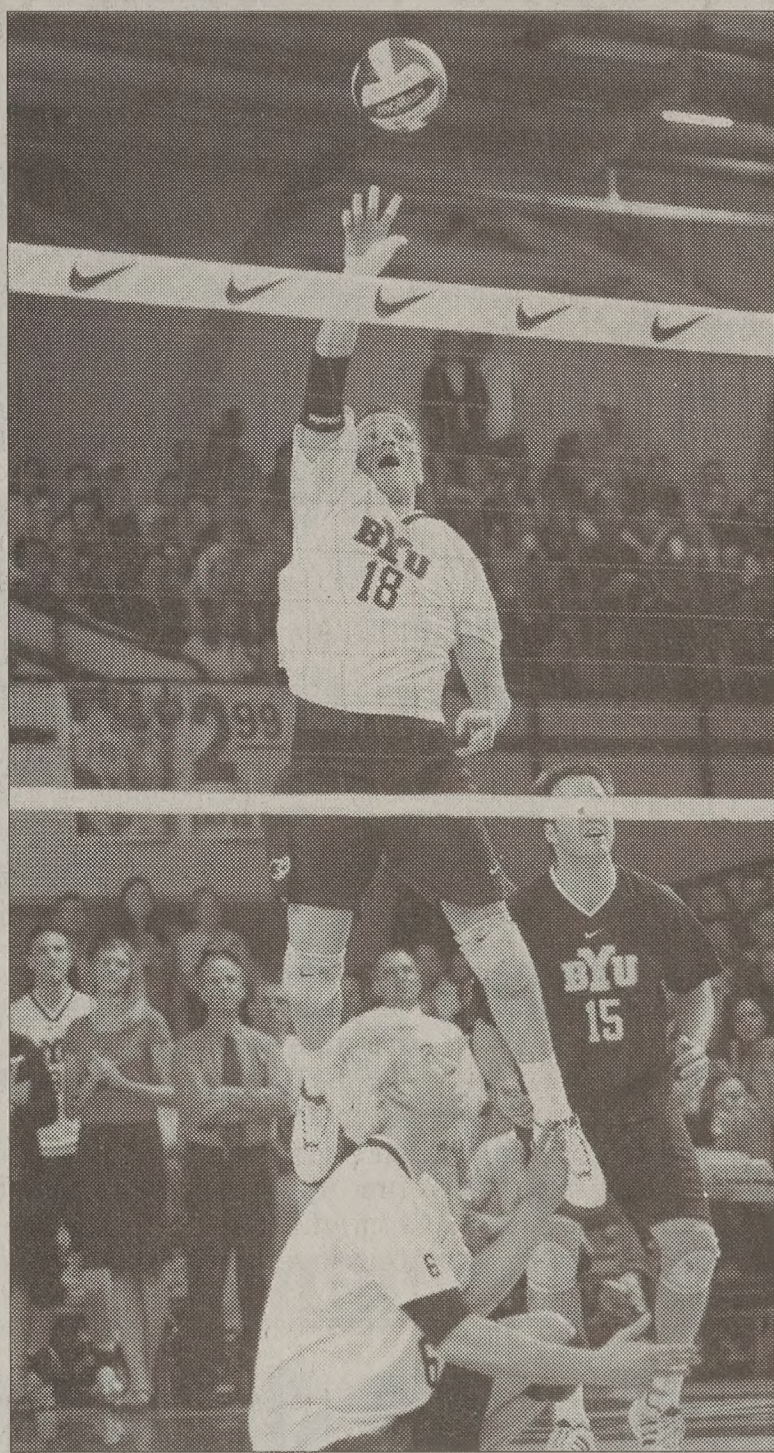


Photo by Heather Winn

Luka Slabe goes up for a kill Friday night against UCLA.

"Every single hitter we have is hitting for a high percentage."

Occasionally, Moreno would catch the Bruins off-guard when, instead of setting, he simply flicked the ball over the net. Moreno earned seven kills that way.

"I would assume the crowd had fun watching our offense go tonight," Peterson said. "(Moreno) didn't key on any one individual; he passed really well."

On Saturday, the Cougars rallied to win the first and second games, and then the Bruins fell apart.

UCLA committed 12 attack errors and seven service errors packaging in the game, giving the Cougars an easy 19 points. Earlier in the week, UCLA coach Al Scates said his team needed to be strong in those two areas to have a chance.

But UCLA wasn't strong in those areas in either match, committing a combined 45 attack errors and 37 serve errors, while hitting a mere .223.

The errors were especially blatant in BYU's 12-2 run that blew the third match wide open. In that stretch, UCLA committed five attack errors and committed errors on the only three serves it attempted.

The errors came at other inopportune times for the Bruins. In the first game, UCLA committed 10 service errors. In the second game, BYU took an early 10-5 lead because of a 6-1 rally that included three Bruin errors.

"(UCLA) made a ton of errors — unforced errors, and that won't happen with a good team," Peterson said.

Shawn Olmstead started at libero in both matches for BYU, replacing Fernando Pessoa.

"(Pessoa) hasn't been demoted for any reason," Peterson said. "I'm very confident that if he was in, he would win those matches for us also. Same thing with Jaime (Mayol) and Luka (Slabe). I didn't know until right before game time who was going to start."

ers earn at least six kills. BYU's unpredictable offense left UCLA baffled.

Moreno was the trigger man, sending high volleys to Rafael Paal or Luka Slabe on the outside, and setting up Michael Burke and Jonathon Alleman inside.

"I feel it doesn't matter who I set, I feel like they'll put the ball away," Moreno said.

Starting over: Cougars defeat New Mexico

Cougars begin new home streak; host Air Force tonight

By NIC GOODFELLOW

The Cougars needed very little motivation after their first real loss last week and wasted no time in taking care of New Mexico, 80-64, Saturday afternoon in the Marriott Center.

"We knew this was a must-win for junior Mark Bigelow said. "It steps us up with the leaders of the Mountain West Conference." "BYU quickly learned it was not going to be a battle of one player on one player as Lobo senior Ruben Peralta scored 22 of New Mexico's first 26 points and finished with a game-high 39.

"I tried a lot of things against Ruben," coach Steve Haskins said. "But a lot of them didn't work."

BYU's bright spot for the Cougars was that four players finished in double figures, which is helpful considering that junior center Rafael Araujo struggled in the game.

Araujo missed a couple practices during the week due to a flu virus and it showed in the game.

"He played like he practiced," Haskins said.

The Lobos surprised the Cougars in the first half, starting with guards and making an impressive small lineup even small.

The Cougars were unable to take advantage of their height as the Lobos jumped out to a 15-10 lead.

BYU quickly responded, scoring six straight points on a three-point-play by sophomore Jared Jensen and a three-point shot by senior Travis Hansen.

The first half belonged to Hansen, as he tore apart every defender the Cougars tried on.

Cleveland said he could only remember a couple shots that Hansen took that were not contested and gave credit to the senior forward for his play.

"That kid can take a game," Cleveland said.

The Cougars quickly proved Hansen couldn't do it alone as they brought their way to a 39-31 lead.

The second half wasn't much different as the Cougars had only one stop, and a whole lot of shooters that broke through a sloppy Lobo defense.

"We knew we would

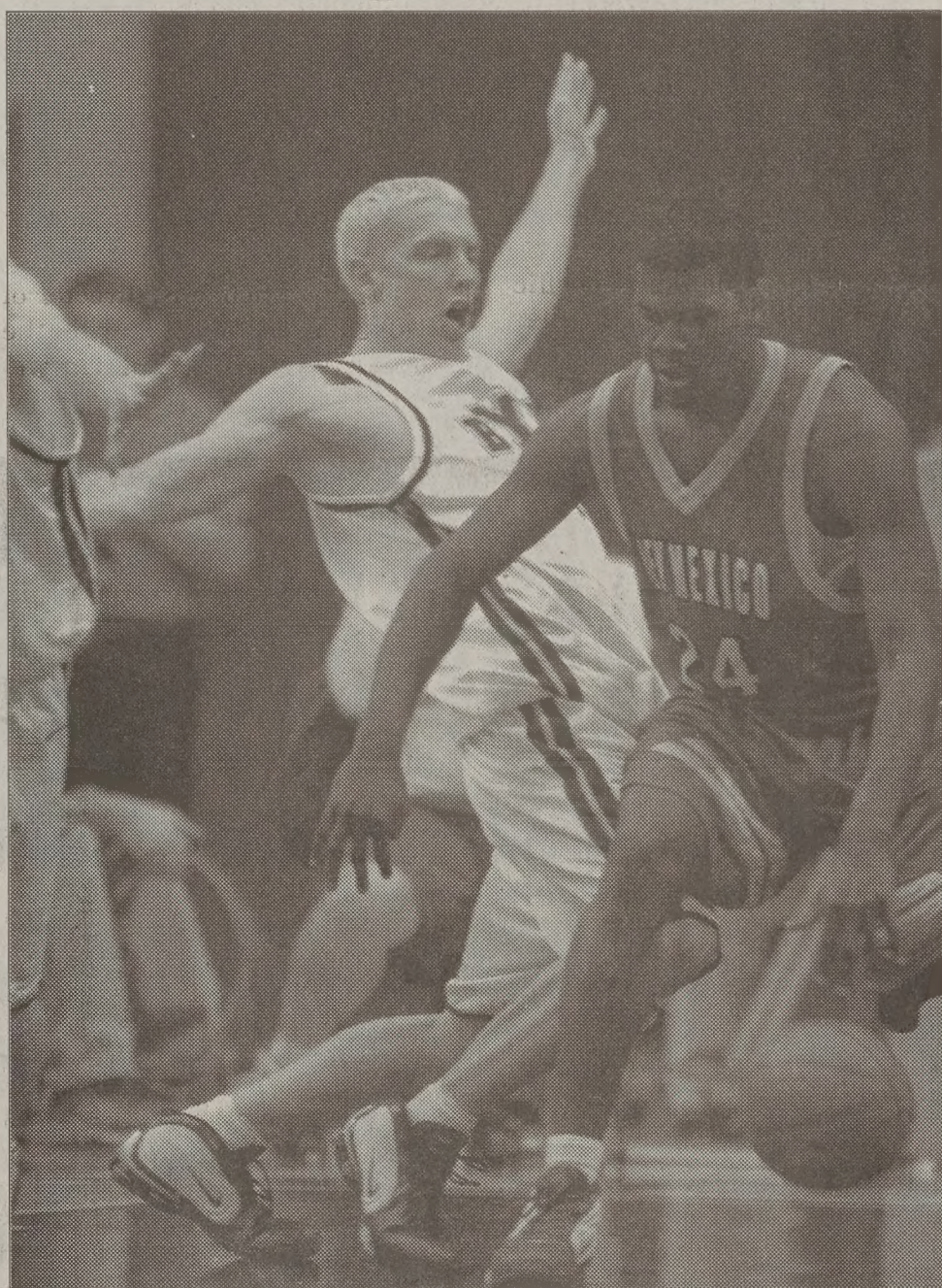


Photo by Jack R. Peterson

BYU's Travis Hansen gets physical on defense against New Mexico.

get some open shots."

Bower, who has been playing with a couple of cracked ribs and a herniated disc in his back, continues to be a big spark off the bench. He led all bench scorers

with 14 points on 4-of-7 shooting from the three-point line.

The Cougars' defense slipped a bit toward the end of the game, but they had already accumulated enough of a lead that it didn't

hurt.

Hansen gave the crowd something to remember as he stole the ball at half-court and threw a monstrous dunk down with just over two minutes to go.

Hansen led the Cougars with 19 points and Bigelow added 18.

Next up for the Cougars is Air Force, who comes into Provo tonight with a lot more respect than they have had in seasons past.

"They've proved they can play with everyone in the league," Cleveland said.

They play a slow down offense, which BYU isn't used to seeing and could frustrate the Cougars by taking them out of their element.

Game time is 8:30 p.m.

Leitner suspended; women fall to Utah

By HILLARY WALLACE

The BYU women's basketball team hopes to rebuild after a 68-50 loss to Utah Saturday, ending the Cougars' home winning streak.

"They just outplayed us today," coach Jeff Judkins said. "They made big plays when they had to."

Without the help from all-conference senior Jennifer Leitner, who was suspended indefinitely for breaking team rules, BYU lacked the offensive strength it needed against Utah.

Judkins said the decision, made by the coaching staff and the players, was in the best interest of the team. He said the loss of Leitner made it harder to adjust in game situations, especially against a good team like Utah.

Sophomore Danielle Cheesman said the decision caused the team to come together and made the team stronger.

"Players have to step into roles that they might not be ready for at first," Cheesman said. "But everyone has gotten better and

stepped up to the challenge."

BYU began the first half with a three-pointer by sophomore Kali Taylor and a short jumper by Junior Kestlee Nelson.

With the teams tied at 11 after 10 minutes of play, BYU increased its lead to six with a shot by senior Lisa Hansen. But Utah went on an 8-0 run led by Kim Smith that gave the Utes a two-point lead going into half-time.

BYU kept the game close for most of the second half, but fouls from BYU's players down the stretch gave Utah easy baskets at the free-throw line, hitting 15-of-19 for the game.

Cheesman stepped up her play inside the key for the Cougars. She led BYU in scoring with 17 points and five rebounds. But BYU as a team only shot 40 percent in the second half, while Utah shot 65 percent.

"Our shots just didn't go down in the second half," Judkins said.

Judkins said BYU has struggled this year, losing key players to injury and suspension, but the team has now focused its play to relying on other players to fulfill those roles for the team.

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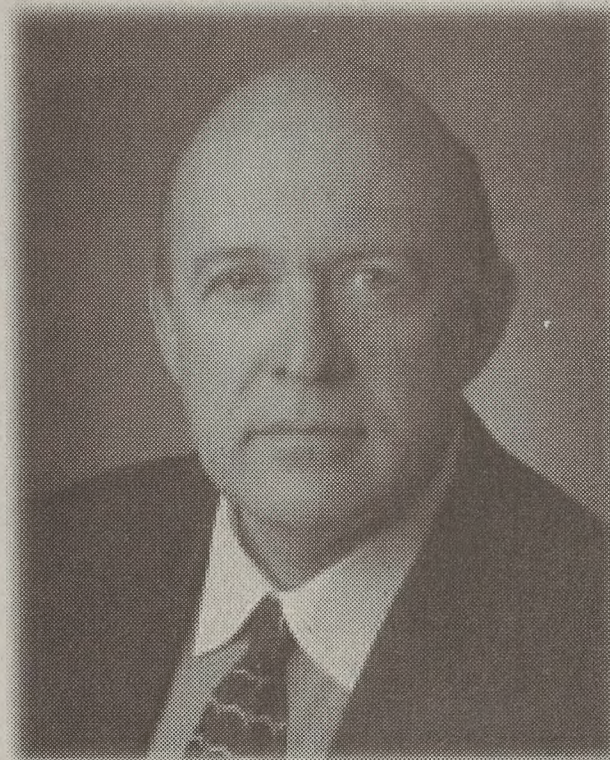
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Randall W. Boothe

Associate Professor, BYU School of Music

Randall W. Boothe is an associate professor in the BYU School of Music. He has served for 25 years as artistic director of the Young Ambassadors. His performance tours for BYU and BYU-Hawaii have taken him to 40 countries on 61 tours over the past 30 years. He is a consultant with Walt Disney Productions, the Polynesian Cultural Center, and Jackson Hole Playhouse. In 1997 he directed the Sesqui-centennial Spectacular in Cougar Stadium with a cast of 6,000 participants, and last year he served as codirector of *Light of the*

World, the 2002 Winter Games Spectacular presented in the LDS Conference Center during the Olympics.

Brother Boothe has served as second counselor in a stake presidency, on a stake high council, as a bishop, elder's quorum president, varsity team coach, Primary teacher, choir director, organist, gospel doctrine teacher, and as a full-time missionary in the Germany Frankfurt Mission from 1970 to 1972.

He is married to the former Susan Johnson of Spanish Fork, and they have three children.

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February 6-8

SPORTS WEEK
Guide

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Monday - Air Force @ BYU 8:30 p.m.
Saturday - BYU @ Wyoming 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Thursday - New Mexico @ BYU 7 p.m.
Saturday - Air Force @ BYU 1 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Friday/Saturday - UC-San Diego @ BYU 7 p.m.

HOCKEY

Friday - Wyoming @ Provo 7:30 p.m.
Saturday - Utah @ Provo 7:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Thursday-Saturday - BYU @ Arizona St.

TRACK

Saturday - BYU @ Mountain States Games - Pocatello, Idaho

GYMNASTICS

Friday/Saturday - BYU @ Cat Classic - Columbia, Mo.

MEN'S TENNIS

Friday - BYU @ Northern Arizona 11 a.m.
Saturday - BYU @ Arizona 12 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Friday - Weber State @ BYU 3 p.m.
Saturday - Utah @ BYU 12 p.m.

Cougars pleased
with performance

By DAVID RUECKERT

The BYU lacrosse team out-matched UVSC in a scrimmage Saturday afternoon, allowing both teams to work out kinks before their regular seasons begin.

Although no official score was kept, BYU coach Jason Lamb said he was pleased with the results.

"We looked better today than we have in seasons past at this point," he said. "I wanted to see our substitution box run smoothly, and it went pretty well."

At the beginning of each season, Lamb plans scrimmages to work on clears, rides, substitutions and man-down situations.

BYU went deep into its bench throughout the game, providing valuable time for players home from missions and new members of the team.

"It felt good to run at game-speed and get some hits," sophomore middle Jesse Heir said. Heir returned from his mission last summer. "I think we played down to their level, though."

Team captain Jordan Archibald said it was hard to get into an offensive flow.

"It's hard to run your offense when the defense slides so inconsistently," Archibald said.

BYU controlled the ball dur-

ing the first half, holding UVSC scoreless. The Wolverines had difficulty keeping their defense tight on the crease, as sophomore attackmen Jon Mangum and Jarom Winn repeatedly assisted cutters for goals.

The Wolverines had one good scoring opportunity in the first half when they found an attackman on the crease during transition play, but goalie Tyler Storer stuffed the shot.

Sophomore midfielders Mark Tschaggeny and Phil McClure added to the firepower in the second and third quarters, rifling shots past the goalie's head.

The second-half playing time was given to BYU's younger players, who are still working to solidify positions in the lineup.

UVSC coach Dave Hunt said the scrimmage was beneficial because his team tried some new looks on the field.

"We experimented with some different defensive sets that we've worked on in practice," he said. "We have new faces and transfer players that we got a good look at in a game situation."

The Cougars will scrimmage against Utah Saturday in preparation for the start of the regular season. BYU opens the season playing in a tournament in Texas.

Saturday's game is scheduled for 1 p.m. on the turf fields west of the Richards Building.

Ouch! Cougars give up 32 runs in loss

By BRANDON KOLDITZ

The BYU baseball team allowed a record number of runs in the final game Saturday of a three-game series against the University of Arizona.

The Wildcats scored 32 runs in a 32-3 victory against the Cougars, winning the series 2-1. Before Saturday's game, the previous record for runs scored against BYU was 29 held by Cal State-Northridge in 1994 at the league championship in Provo.

Arizona's 29-run win on Saturday was the largest margin of defeat ever against the Cougars. Two teams, Northern Colorado (1981) and Arizona State (1999), previously held the record. Both had 25-point victories against the Cougars.

"I don't think failure is something that will bring us down," junior starting pitcher Michel Bergeron said. "Our team looks at it more as a step forward to where we want to get. We're going to keep pushing."

Junior starting pitcher Richie Gardner earned the win for Arizona. Gardner scattered four hits in seven innings while striking out eight Cougars.

Behind freshman designated hitter Derek Decater's two-run home run, the Wildcats put 10 runs on the board and sent 15 players to the plate in the fifth inning. Decater finished the game four-for-five, adding two triples to his home run.

Arizona was helped by 10 errors committed by the Cougars resulting in 13 unearned runs.

"We can't look at it as a negative thing," junior shortstop Ranger Wiens said. "We've got to look at it as we've got room to improve and things we need to work on."

"In baseball, more than any other sport, it's really not how you start the season," junior catcher Adam Wilkes said. "It's not the first third of the season. It's the second two-thirds of the

season that count the most. We are going to have a lot of chances to prove ourselves."

The Cougars opened the season with a win against Arizona on Thursday, beating the Wildcats 6-3. The win broke Arizona's record of nine consecutive opening season victories, dating back to 1993.

Junior Jeff Mousser, an Arizona native, earned the first win of the season. Mousser had nine strikeouts and allowed two runs in six and a third innings of work.

Wiens provided much of the offense in the Cougars' win. He went four-for-five, hitting two doubles and a two-run home run.

"(Wiens) has all the tools, I think, to be a major league baseball player, yet he wasn't quite sure how good he could be," BYU coach Vance Law said in an interview with KOVO 960 AM on Friday. "We spent quite a bit of time trying to build him and help him with his confidence so he can come out and do the things he did

(Thursday). I think that's just an indication of what he's going to be like and we're really pleased with the way he has come along."

In game two on Friday, the Cougars had a 7-1 lead before allowing Arizona to score 16 runs in the final five innings and win the game 17-13.

After missing most of last year to injuries, junior third baseman Kainoa Obrey made a convincing return in Friday's game. Obrey was 5-for-6 with a home run and three RBI in the game.

"He provides the sock in the middle of the lineup that we need," Law said to KOVO 960 AM. "He has felt very good all year. Our team looks to him for leadership. Just having him on the field is really a big plus for us."

Junior reliever Scott Koffman took the loss for BYU after giving up five runs in one and a half innings. Koffman replaced Bergeron in the fifth inning.

The Cougars will again travel to Arizona on Thursday for a three-game series against ranked Arizona State (10-1).

BYU's first home game will be on Mar. 21 when it hosts Mountain West Conference foe Utah. Three games will be played Mar. 21-23.

Distance runners shine in Boise

By MICHAEL JACKLIN
and LINDSEY JOHNSON

NAMPA, Idaho - The Cougar men's track and field team flexed its muscles on Saturday at the BodyBuilder.com Invitational.

BYU competed in the meet without many of its distance runners, including sophomore Kip Kangogo. The distance runners stayed in Provo to prepare for next week's Mountain States Games in hopes of qualifying more athletes to compete at the national indoor meet.

"For the most part it was a good meet," men's head coach Mark Robison said. "Considering the injuries and the distance runners not competing today, I was pleased with the team."

BYU received a strong per-

formance from senior Aron Szmuda in the triple jump. Szmuda recorded a triple jump of 48 feet, 11 inches, which is the longest triple jump of the year so far in the Mountain West Conference. His jump placed him sixth in the meet. Szmuda also competed in the long jump at the meet. His jump of 23 feet, 10.75 inches placed second at the meet.

"Aron jumped really well for us today," Robison said. "This was his first triple jump in competition, which makes it even better."

Junior Daniel Arrhenius turned in another strong performance in the shot put for the Cougars. Arrhenius recorded a season-best throw of 55 feet, placing him fourth at the meet.

BYU's long-distance runners set the pace again for the women's track team at Saturday's

Bodybuilding.com Invite at Boise State.

The Cougars showed strength in the distance events, winning the mile and the 3000-meter, and placing second in the 800-meter running events.

Making her first track appearance of the year, junior Michaela Mannova, from the Czech Republic, came away with a first-place finish and a provisional qualifying time of 4 minutes, 46.55 seconds in the mile run.

Teammates Jamie Cottle, Kassi Andersen, Nan Kennard, Kristy Barrus and Anika Smith all placed in the top 10.

Junior Katie Martin also captured a first-place finish in the 3000-meter run with a time of 9:32.01. Closely behind Martin were teammates Breanne Sandberg and Lindsey Thomsen.

In the mile and 3000-meter runs, BYU had six runners finish in the top nine.

BYU senior runner Jamie Cottle earned a second-place finish in the 800-meter run, with a time of 2:15.18.

Mannova finished close behind Cottle at 2:17.02.

In the mile and 3000-meter runs, BYU had six runners finish in the top nine.

BYU senior runner Jamie Cottle earned a second-place finish in the 800-meter run, with a time of 2:15.18.

Mannova finished close behind Cottle, with a time of 2:17.02.

Sophomore Angela Bell and junior Emily Mars earned third- and fourth-place finishes in the 5000-meter run.

The Cougars will return to action Friday.

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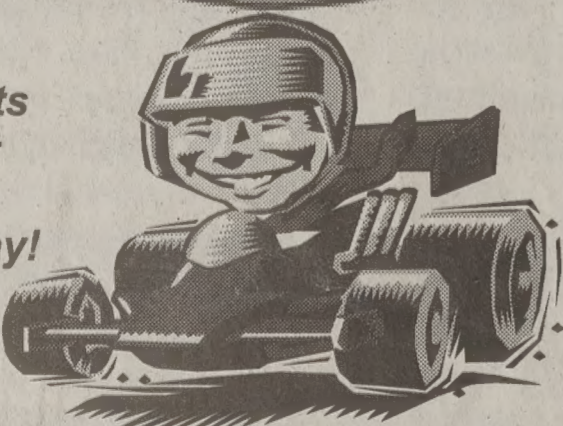
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Photo by Leigh Dethman

Brooke Cadiente and the Cougars split four games over the weekend in the Thunderbird Classic.

Big hits give Cougars wins

By LEIGH DETHMAN

The women's softball team split its season-opening tournament at the Thunderbird Classic, starting the year off with a 2-2 record.

The Cougars dropped a 5-3 decision in their season opener to No. 23 Oregon State and beat Southern Utah 12-8 in extra innings. BYU beat St. Mary's 9-0 in five innings and lost to Cal Poly 7-6 on Saturday.

Against Oregon State, the Cougars fell into a 5-0 hole after OSU freshman Vanessa Iapala hit a two-out grand slam in her first collegiate at bat. The Beavers hit a solo shot in the second, but couldn't produce any more runs thereafter.

The Cougars, powered by freshman centerfielder Ianeta Lei, scored three unanswered runs to cut the lead to 5-3, but could not get any closer.

"We outplayed them after the

second home run but we just couldn't get the key hit at the right time," coach Gordon Eakin said.

Lei hit her first career home run of the season, a two-run shot over the centerfield fence. In game two against Southern Utah, the Cougars got the big hits at the right time.

Down 7-2 in the top of the sixth, sophomore Debbie Dodds hit a two-run home run, her first career homer, to spark a five-run rally to tie the game. All-American Oli Keohohu hit a long ball to left center, the 40th home run of

her career.

Senior outfielder Brooke Cadiente hit a double to give BYU the 12-8 win in extra innings. Freshman Brooke Boyce picked up her first win of the season against the Thunderbirds in three innings on the mound.

The Cougars split two games on day two of the Thunderbird Classic, with a 7-6 loss to Cal Poly and a 9-0 blowout against St. Mary's. Down 5-4 in the top of the seventh against Cal Poly, freshman infielder Ashlyn Russell ripped a two-run homer to give the

Cougars the lead going into the bottom of the seventh. But the Cougars failed to close out the game.

With the bases loaded, Cal Poly's Natalie Carrillo hit a single to shallow centerfield to give the Mustangs the win.

After the tough loss to Cal Poly, the Cougars responded with a 9-0 win against St. Mary's in only five innings, led by Debbie Dodds' 2-3 performance with a double, RBI and two runs scored.

Sophomore Niki Anderson allowed only three hits.

Tennis sweeps; swimmers perfect

BYU's men's and women's tennis and diving teams and basketball teams competed in week-end competition.

Women's Tennis

The Cougars swept Utah State 7-0 in the opener Friday.

Cougars played without player Lu Oswald, who was injured.

For Leeza Klempner took over Oswald in singles competition and performed well.

The team's depth was evident as the Cougars were able to win at position.

"Everybody played well," coach Craig Manning said. "It was a good team; I didn't expect to win the sets that easily."

Men's Tennis

Cougars dominated New Mexico State 5-2 on Friday, but stumbled against nationally ranked Oregon on Saturday, losing 3-2.

Women's Swimming & Diving

The Cougars completed an undefeated season in dual competition with a 129-69 victory over the Ducks.

The Cougars recorded first-place victories in 12 of the 13 events.

The victory gave the Cougars a 12-0 record in regular season title.

Men's Swimming & Diving

The Cougars defeated in-state rival Utah 139-102, avenging a 100-150 loss to the Utes on Nov. 1. Senior diver Adam Adams placed first in the 1-meter and 200-yard freestyle.

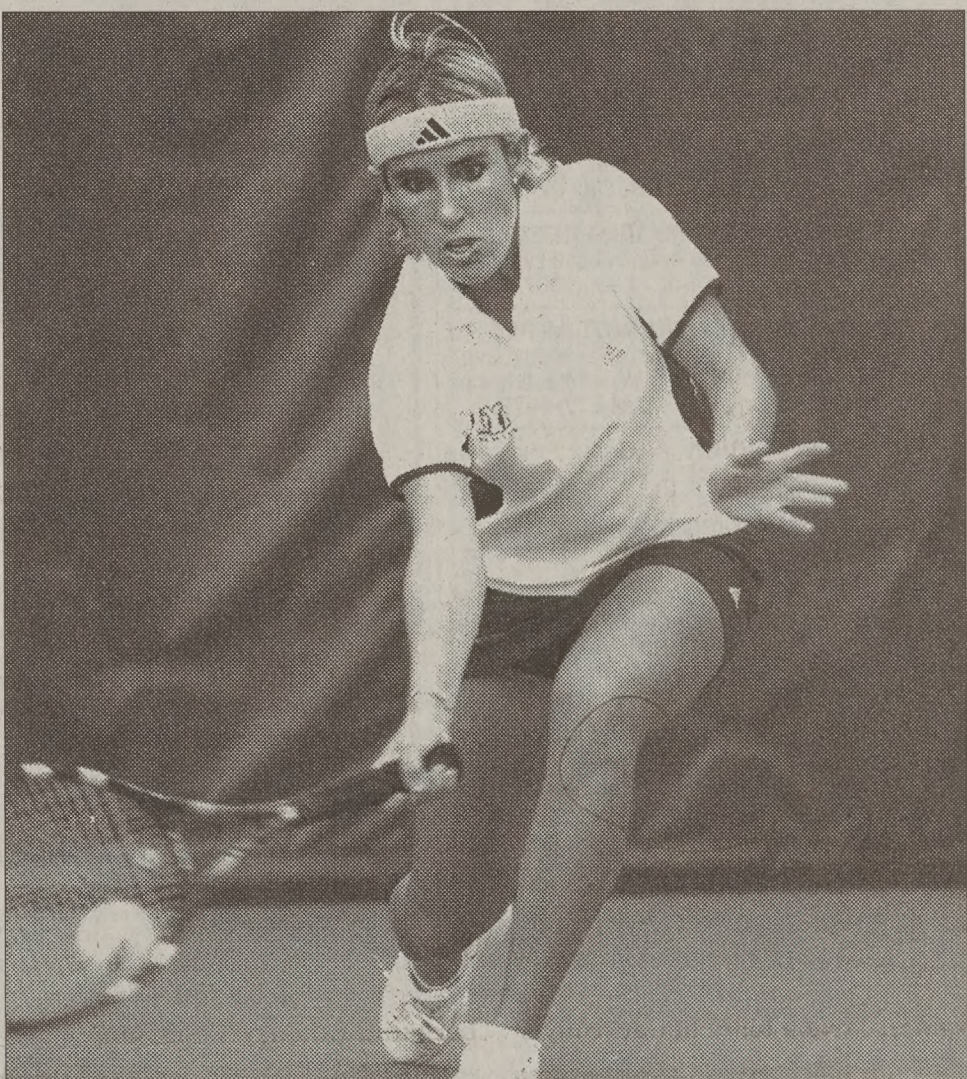


Photo by Corey Perrine

BYU senior Dominique Reynolds returns a volley in weekend action.

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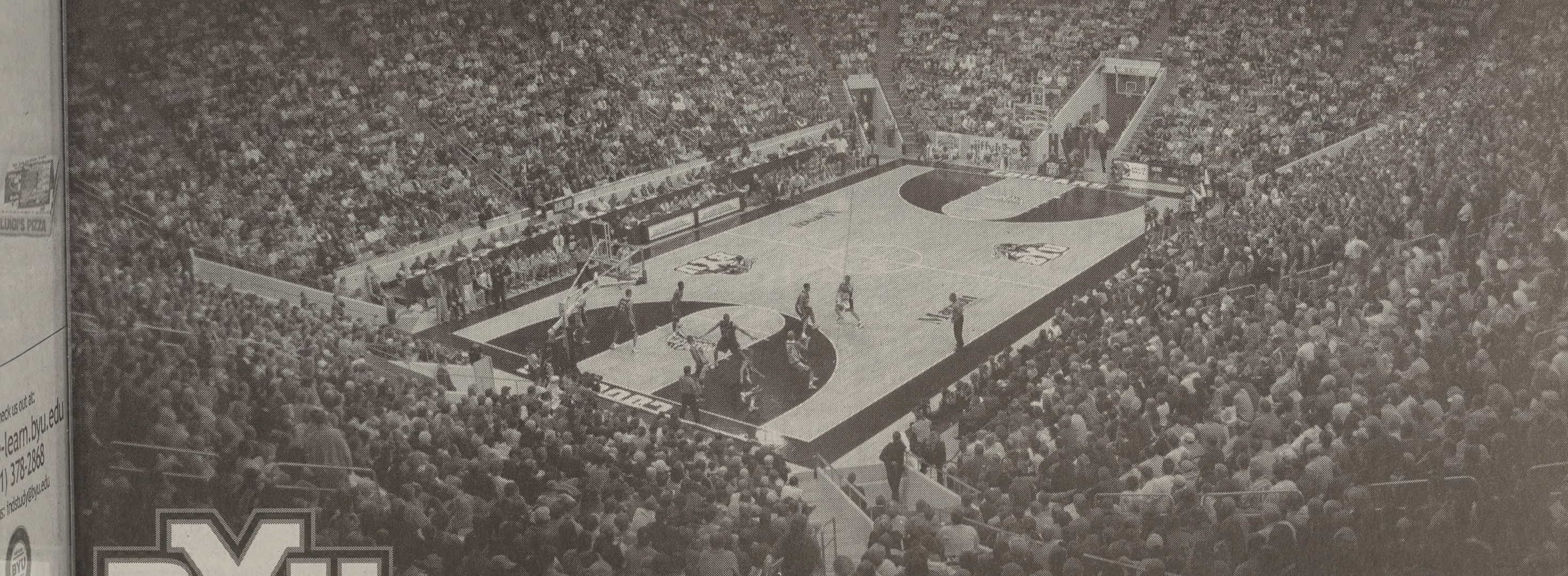
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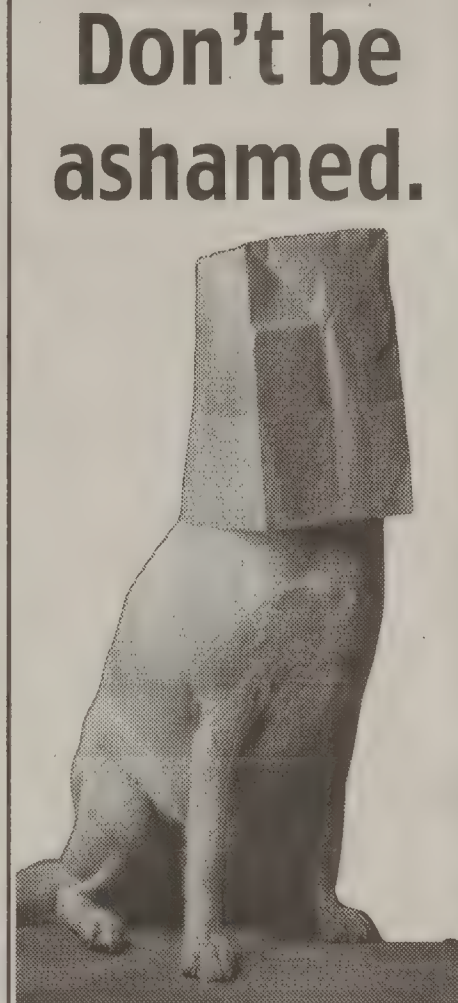
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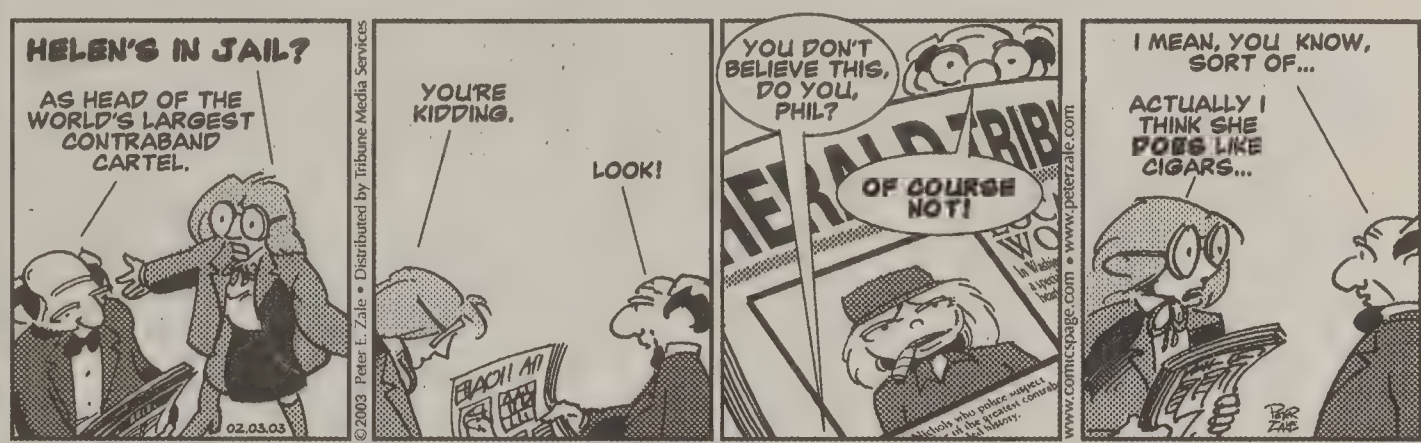
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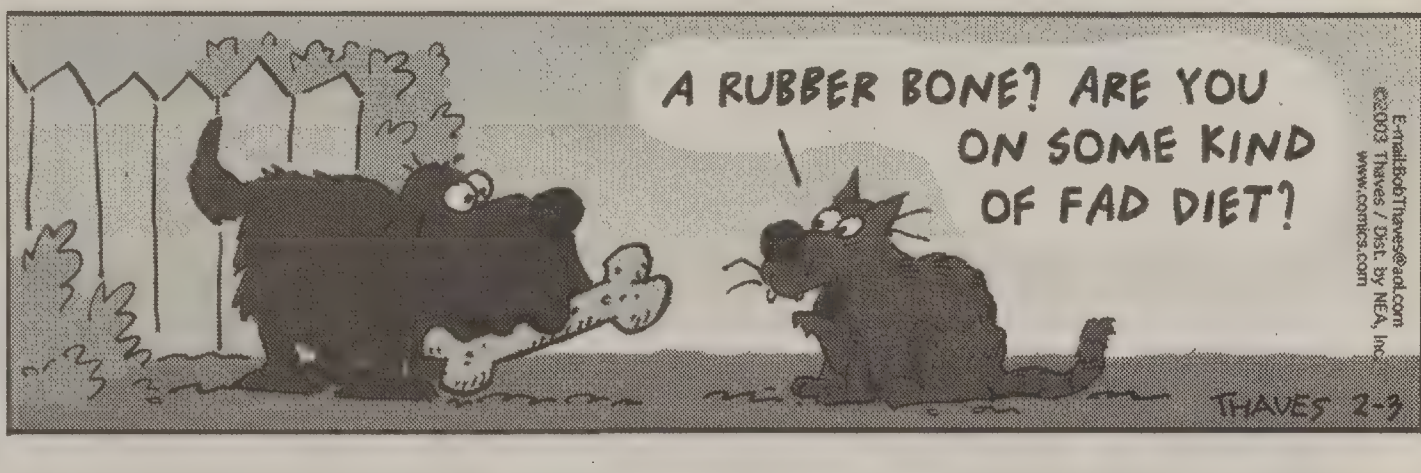
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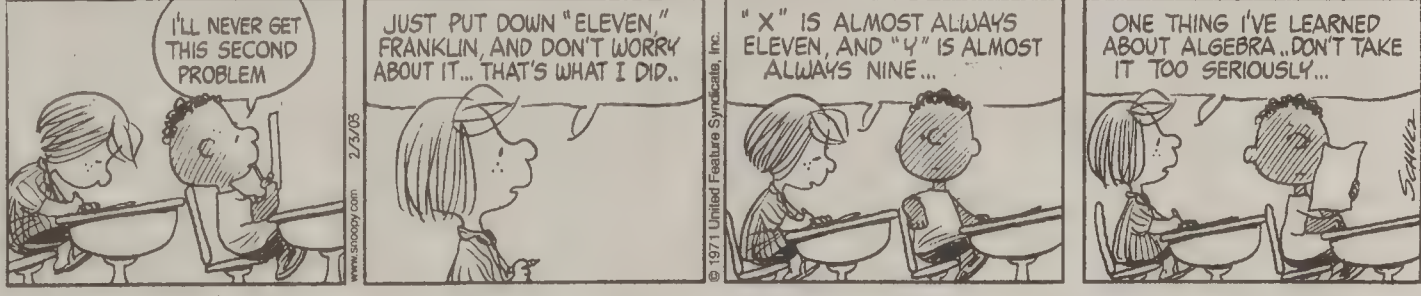
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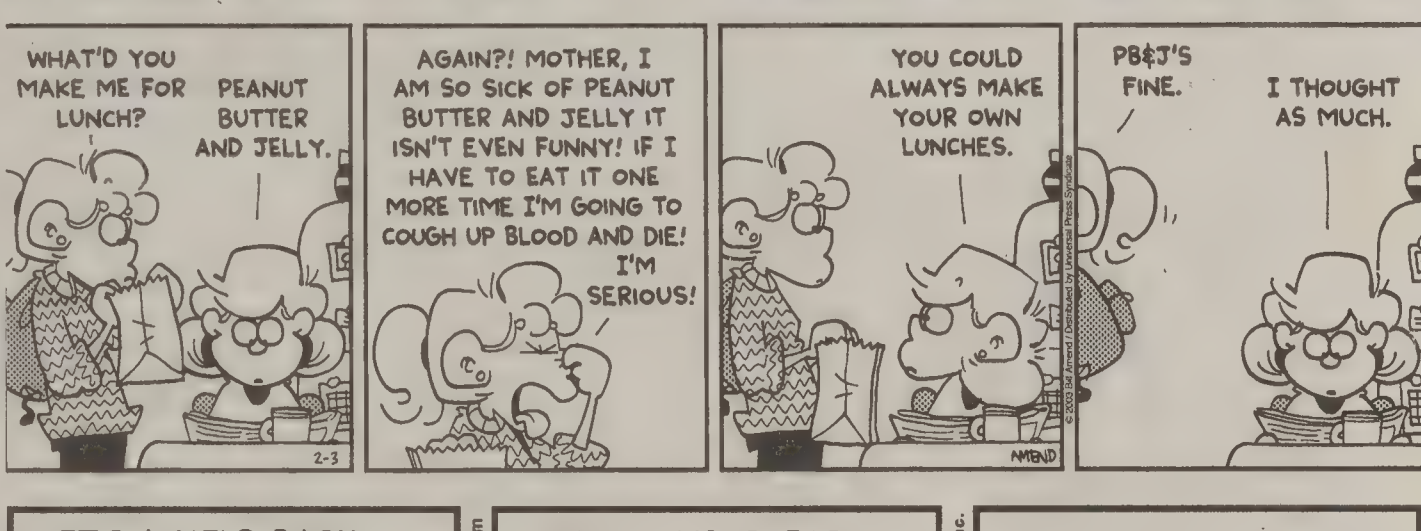
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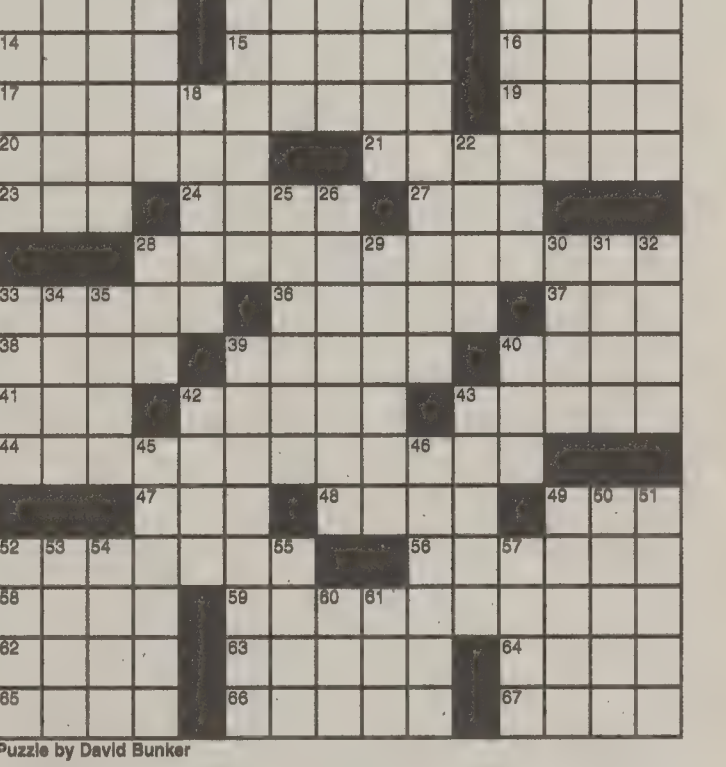


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1223

- ACROSS**
- 1 Polio vaccine developer
 - 5 "Step aside, I'll do it"
 - 10 Unexciting
 - 14 Have to one's head
 - 15 Bird-related
 - 16 Where Pearl Harbor is
 - 17 Popular cookbook author
 - 19 "Thin" coin
 - 20 Come into view
 - 21 Emergency situation
 - 23 Lock opener
 - 24 Lock location
 - 27 Scott Joplin's "Maple Leaf"
 - 28 Lad
 - 33 Mucky-muck
 - 36 "Bolero" composer
 - 37 Advance in years
 - 38 Isn't solvent
 - 39 Dove houses
 - 40 What's harvested
 - 41 Remote control abbr.
 - 42 Filmmaker Woody
 - 43 "If you ..." (words of deference)
 - 44 Worked up
 - 47 Fuel additive
 - 48 Manipulative one
 - 49 File folder feature
 - 52 Excellence
 - 56 Formally renounce
 - 58 Minor (constellation)
 - 59 Somerset Maugham novel, with "The"
 - 62 Mideast's Gulf of
 - 63 Native Alaskan
 - 64 Like a lime
 - 65 Pair
 - 66 Duke, earl, etc.
 - 67 Three, in cards

- DOWN**
- 1 Game show host Pat
 - 2 With mouth wide open
 - 3 Like some gravy and mattresses
 - 4 Midleg
 - 5 Maze runner
 - 6 Preceding day
 - 7 Maria liqueur
 - 8 Antony
 - 9 Signs, as a check
 - 10 Spanish grocery
 - 11 Den
 - 12 "Life is hard ..."
 - 13 Colored
 - 18 Englishman in colonial India
 - 22 Author Roald
 - 25 Take a walk
 - 26 Flat part of a chart line
 - 28 Alamos, N.M.
 - 29 Occasions
 - 30 Differentiate
 - 31 Modest people have small ones



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ASTRONOMER BARS
DESIRER SUMATRA
PIG ASTO DEM
WHOSNEXT SLEEVE
HANS GRETA TONES
IVES SNARL SIRE
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portZone

Let's get down to business

By Jason Lord
SportZone Senior Reporter
13 Jan 2003

BYU's basketball team is getting down to business against each other. Now we'll find out who really has the chance to go to the Big Dance in March. As the exciting January match-ups roll toward us, we break down the conference (in no particular order) and give you three reasons each team will win the conference. We're also looking down one reason why each team might be enjoying March Madness from the comfort of their living rooms. As the exciting January match-ups roll toward us, we break down the conference (in no particular order) and give you three reasons each team will win the conference. Read More

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At A Glance MWC Basketball

Men's Standings

Team	Conf	Overall
Wyoming	4-0	16-3
Utah	3-1	15-4
Colorado St	3-1	14-5
BYU	3-1	14-5
SDSU	2-3	11-7
UNLV	1-4	12-6
Air Force	1-4	10-8
New Mexico	1-4	7-11

Men's MWC Notes

We can't quite decide what to make of the league-leading Wyoming Cowboys. They've won three conference games (UNM, AFA and CSU) by a total of 8 points. Does that mean the Cowboys have the experience to win the close games, or that Wyoming will stumble when they run into stronger competition?

Out of 13 conference games, 10 have been decided by 10 points or less. Don't be surprised if the games coming have followed the trend, and some of the favorites lose some close ones they could've won.

And who can figure out Utah? They lose at SDSU, then come back and beat UNLV and BYU on the road. Those wins put Utah in the driver's seat in the conference, but which team will show up when they go back

Women's Standings

Team	Conf	Overall
Wyoming	4-0	16-3
Utah	3-1	15-4
Colorado St	3-1	14-5
BYU	3-1	14-5
SDSU	2-3	11-7
UNLV	1-4	12-6
Air Force	1-4	10-8
New Mexico	1-4	7-11

Women's MWC Notes
MWC teams are dropping players left and right. BYU and Air Force both suspended one of their top players this week.

Cougar head coach Jeff Judkins announced Friday that senior forward Jennifer Leitner was suspended indefinitely for violating team rules. Leitner was the Cougars' leading rebounder, and added 12.6 points per game. Judkins has some big shoes to fill.

Air Force suspended its best player, sophomore Latoya Howell, for violating school rules. Howell led the team in scoring, rebounding, steals and assists.

Utah took control of the MWC standings with a win over the Cougars Saturday. The Utes



Cougars

Baseball Gets Spanked

Arizona thumped the BYU Cougars 32-3 Saturday in the final game of a three-game series. The Wildcats' 32 runs made the BYU record book for most runs allowed by the Cougars. Cal State Northridge set the previous record at 29 in 1994.

Where My Girls At?

In what was supposed to be one of the biggest games of the year, the University of Utah killed the Cougars 67-50, Saturday. The Utes dominated, shooting a blistering 50 percent from the field overall.

Coach Jeff Judkins was forced to shuffle his starting lineup after suspending senior forward Jennifer Leitner indefinitely for violating team rules. Senior center Lisa Hansen started in Leitner's place, but couldn't match her numbers.

Women's Tennis Picks Up First Win

The women's tennis team was perfect Friday, not dropping a single set in a win against Utah State Friday. The team won its first match of the season, defeating the Aggies 7-0.

BYU picked up the slack after losing Lu Oswald with an injured right shoulder. Oswald will sit out the rest of the season. "I knew that we were playing well but I just didn't know how we were going to come out after all that happened this week with Lu," coach Craig Manning said.

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BYU SportZone

February 3, 2003 • Vol. 1 Issue 20

Raise the Roof

Men's Volleyball shuts out UCLA



Cougars on Ice

Ice Hockey is the growing trend leaving BYU black and blue



VIEWPOINT

Tough Love

These days it seems that violence is perfectly acceptable in basketball

By JARED LLOYD

Bam! Ka-pow! Whack! Sounds like an old Batman episode, doesn't it?

No, it's the current trend in the NBA.

Last week, Utah head coach Jerry Sloan got drilled with a seven-game suspension for showing referee Courtney Kirkland in a game against Sacramento.

Indiana bad boy Ron Artest will sit out four games for a flagrant foul, taunting, getting in the face of Miami head coach Pat Riley, and for making immature gestures to the Miami crowd in a game against the Heat.

I've heard analysts compare the recent outburst of violence to World Wrestling Entertainment. Of course, if Sloan's one-handed shove is like the WWE, the WWE is more pitiful than I thought.

Of course, Artest (who appears to have read Dennis Rodman's book *Bad As I Want To Be* too many times) might feel more comfortable in an arena with lame insults and fake falls.

When I talk about violence on the court, I'm not referring to the standard pushing and shoving in the post or the occasional hard foul on a drive. I even see some flagrant fouls as justifiable and not anger-motivated. Should players be disciplined for being reckless? Of course, but those aren't hits intended to injure or provoke other players.

I know competitive basketball stirs up a lot of raw emotion. In these days of trash-talking and tattoos, the images of play-ground confrontations seem to naturally fit in the formal game.

But should it? It may be surprising, but I think some in-game arguments are justified. As a player, you have to have the attitude that you

TOP TEN Super Bowl Appearances

BYU Alumni

10 Steve Young, QB, 49ers, '95: Young threw six TD passes, was named MVP... and was so drained he had to receive fluids intravenously after the game.

9 Brian Billick, head coach, Ravens, '01: Billick's defense was never more dominating than in the Super Bowl. How else does a team with Trent Dilfer at QB win?

8 Jim McMahon, QB, Bears, '86: Da' Bears of 1986 were brash, crazy, and very good... which is also an accurate description of McMahon through his career.

7 Doug Jolley, TE, Raiders, '03: Jolley grabbed five passes for 59 yards in the Raiders loss. At least they were five passes the Buccaneers didn't intercept.

6 Mike Holmgren, head coach, Packers, '97: A strong game by QB Brett Favre helped Holmgren become the first ex-Cougar to win a Super Bowl as head coach.

5 Bart Oates, C, 49ers, '95: No team can throw for 316 yards without help from the O-line. Oates gets our nod for best performance because, hey, he played at BYU.

4 Kurt Gouveia, LB, Redskins, '88 and '92: Hats off to all former BYU defensive players who make it to the big game. Gouveia did it twice with the Redskins.

3 Todd Christensen, TE, Raiders, '81 and '84: The Pro Bowler is the only BYU alum to play two Super Bowls with the same team, in different cities (Oakland and L.A.).

2 Gordon Gravelle, Steelers, '75: Gravelle had the honor of being the first BYU alum to play in the Super Bowl.

1 The overall record for former Cougars: 37 have played in the Super Bowl, with 29 on the winning side. But we won't tell that to Doug Jolley.

underneath the uniform

Chris Gorny, #6 Men's Volleyball

Do you have any nicknames?

Gornstar or the Gorninator. We have a whole group of us on the team that are the 'nators.

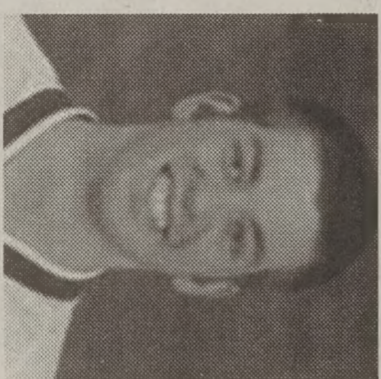
How old were you when you had your first kiss?

My first real kiss? I was in seventh grade and she was in eighth, an older woman. It was actually right in front of my mom. I went to give her a hug and she just started kissing me.

What kind of coach would you be?

What do you do after a game? Go home and play with my dog.

One article of clothing you can't live without? Underwear. No, socks. I could live with out underwear.



Cover Photo: The IceCats defend against the strong N. Colorado defense, Saturday.

Photo by Corey Perrine

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Standing Room Only

BYU fans pack the house to watch the Cougars serve, spike and kill

By JARED LLOYD

Volleyball is a simple game, on the surface. All you have to do is get a round ball to hit the floor on the other team's side of the net.

Hey, it's so simple, non-athletic families can play it for FTH.

But saying volleyball is simple is like saying basketball is easy because putting a ball through a hoop only a few feet over your head shouldn't be that tough.

Check out one of the volleyball games the BYU men play, and you'll realize that volleyball can be extremely complex. And quite engrossing.

"Unless you're studying the sport, it's hard to understand the complexity," Cougar head coach Tom Peterson said.

"But it's easy to see a hit by Luka Slabe. It's easy to see someone jump high and hit hard. Of course you don't always see the complexity. The fans know enough, have seen enough, and played enough, either in their own backyard or at a higher level, it's just fun to see it be played at the highest level."

After watching a few games over in the Smith Fieldhouse, I agree with Coach Peterson in all that he said.

Sure, I saw the hand signals and the back sets. I have no idea how they aim their spikes or how they choose whether to serve short or long. But I love those overpowering spikes, the big blocks, and the grace those guys play with.

And so do fans at BYU. Almost 8,500 fans packed into the Fieldhouse over the weekend for the two matches against UCLA. They carry signs or flags or sport crazy wigs. It's not just students, though. Glancing around, you see plenty of middle-aged families, older couples, and young kids screaming to get Cosmo's attention.

Throughout the match I tried to pinpoint why I enjoy the games so much. After watching BYU dismantle UCLA, I came to some conclusions.

First of all, the atmosphere at the match was spectacular. People were yelling and cheering after every point. That's one of the things the players notice about playing in Provo.

"I think people come for the atmosphere," junior outside hitter Jonathan Allaman said. "The Fieldhouse is set up so you can get really close to the players. I think people like being with their friends, being able to make a lot of noise, and being in such a tight place where it just echoes."

"It helps us a lot to hear everyone chanting 'BYU!'" sophomore setter Carlos Moreno said. "You get so excited that you want to play better and better. It makes me want to show my best stuff."

Volleyball also combines some of the best aspects of football and basketball. In both football and volleyball, the players put an intense



Photos by Heather Winn

BYU fans crowd the Smith Fieldhouse to see players on the men's volleyball team, such as Jonathan Allaman (above) and Chris Gorny (below), defeat nationally ranked teams, like UCLA.

amount of effort into a couple of seconds of action. This results in crushing hits in both sports. Like basketball, volleyball has a limited amount of players directly relying on each other. The setting on the court makes fans feel like they're part of the game.

"The crowd loves spectacular plays that show power," Peterson said. "In volleyball, you're jumping as high as you can on every play, on every spike, and you have the intricate stuff like the passing. In basketball, you don't jump as high as you can every time. I love basketball, but volleyball shows more power in the sport continuously as any sport we have. It's the most team sport. You can't do it with just a couple of guys."

The success of volleyball is backed up by worldwide popularity. "Volleyball itself is a great spectator sport," Peterson affirmed. "Lots of people in the United States, when they discover it, think the same thing, but lots of people don't think about it because we're so locked into basketball and football. I have a statement from our Olympic office that says volleyball is the second largest sport in the world, both in spectators and participation, next to soccer."

To learn more about why other people enjoy watching volleyball, I talked to a group of girls on the front row between games. The discussion was enhanced by the fact that we had to keep dodging volleyball as the teams warmed up across the court.

"We come to all of the home games," Jenavieve Phillips, a freshman from Georgia, said. "We came at 6:00 p.m., but some of our friends came at 5:30 p.m."

As we ducked another ricocheting ball, I asked if they felt nervous about being so close to the fast-flying volleyballs.

"It is dangerous but we get all of the action right here," said Jamie Readlich, a freshman from California. "We've got each other to watch our backs."

When I asked what they enjoyed most about watching the game, they agreed with Peterson.

"We like watching them spike it, smash it down on the other team," said Davia King, a freshman from Orem. When about whether they understood the rules and the strategies, the answer was a resounding yes.

"We understand the rules," said Brooke Thulin, a freshman from California. "A lot of us play volleyball. There's actually a strategy to the game. If you see the difficulty in it, you have more respect for it."

"Volleyball is the second largest sport in the world, both in spectators and participation, next to soccer."

Lydia Olmka, a junior from Tuscon, Ariz., said she felt people enjoy the game more when they comprehend what's going on. "You can always see their physical ability and their talent and you appreciate it that way, but to really get the full affect of it, you need to understand the game."

I also asked the players whether they felt the fans understood the rules of the game and what is actually going on.

"I think quite a few of the fans understand the game," Allaman said. "Obviously there are the ones that don't, but it doesn't really matter. They're still out here cheering us on and it's awesome."

"I think, for the most part, the fans understand the game," Moreno agreed. "The fans we have here like volleyball, and that's why they are here. It's not just because they think the men's volleyball team is hot. They understand and like the game."

GOUGARS on ICE

Slashing, Slicing, Spearing, Cross-Checking. This ain't figure skating.

By JEREMY TWITCHELL

The word "renaissance" usually doesn't evoke images of heavily-padded gargantuans smashing each other in the mouth and launching a small, black projectile at one another, but that's exactly what's happening in Provo right now.

The Provo IceCats are heading down the stretch of their most successful season in team history, which has created new levels of success and interest for hockey in the Happy Valley.

Essentially, it's a rebirth of ice hockey right here in Provo.

"This season has gone so much better," said sophomore center Derek Battist.

"My roommates went to some of the games a couple years ago, and they said, 'You guys were really bad back then. What happened? Was it just you?' So many players have come together."

After splitting two games this weekend with the University of Northern

Colorado, the team's record stands at 12-8-1, and with four of the team's remaining eight games against teams with losing records, the IceCats have a good chance of finishing with a winning record.

"In comparison to previous seasons, this is an incredible success," IceCats coach Edwin Gantt said. "Last year and the year before, it was, 'Let's try and keep it respectable; try to keep the loss small.' Now we can really compete with these teams."

While achieving a winning record may not seem like much to fans of a university with a tradition of winning across the board, the IceCats deserve respect for the way they have reached this point.

In the absence of university recognition and official support, the team has been built on more than 20 years of hard work from players striving to establish a winning team.

The IceCats have reached this new plateau with a combination of a potent, high scoring offense and steady improvement on what, in years past, was a weak defense.

In 19 games this season where an official score was kept, the IceCats are averaging 5.4 goals per game.

Multiple IceCats, including Battisti, senior center Greg Ingram, freshman winger Jim Burkhart and sophomore winger Travis Little, have recorded hat tricks.

"We have a lot more skill - more talented players," said Ingram, the team's captain. "A lot of it is just that skill. We have a lot of guys who can score. We've played

together for a couple years, and we know each other's tendencies."

Battisti also credits the experience of playing together in creating a more solid team.

"Our lines are clicking," he said. "Our line has been together from the start, with myself, Nate Orr and Jason Griffiths. Last year I didn't know who my linemates were, because we switched them up so much."

Even the defensive players have gotten in on the offensive action. Four defensive players, freshman Justin Pehrson, graduate student Matt Hunsaker, sophomore Mark Ostebo and sophomore Mike Martinez, have had multiple-goal games.

"In the past, we've struggled with team defense," Gantt said. "But, we've made some strides this year."

"Our defense is a lot better, said junior defenseman Dan Haws. "We're more solid, and technically we're a lot better. The big difference is guys that have skill and use their size well."

Backing up the team this season has been the strong goalkeeping tandem of

sophomore Tammie Stehrenberger and junior "Haws" Hexburg.

Both goalies have been strong in the net for the IceCats, with save percentages hovering in the 80s.

However, the season has not been all breakthroughs and triumphs for the team. Even before competition began, the IceCats were battling adversity, especially at the goalkeeper position.

Just before the season began, senior goalkeeper Rob Anderson left the team for personal reasons. Given that he was slated to be the starter, his loss came as an early blow to the team.

The situation became worse just days later, when Stehrenberger was involved in an accident on his motorcycle. Although he escaped serious injury, he was unable to play until well into the season.

American Collegiate Hockey Association rules require every team to dress two goalies for every game, so Stehrenberger continued to dress for each game and sit on the bench with his teammates. However, he was in no condition to

play, and the goalkeeping duties fell solely on Hexburg.

"There was no pressure, Hexburg said. "It's easier because you don't worry about



IceCats player gets hit against the wall by Northern Colorado player Saturday. IceCats were defeated 3-2. Above, IceCats mascot gets ready to throw a prize filled football to the audience.

us, it's tougher, but the competition is good. It keeps us on our toes."

Stehrenberger rejoined the team shortly before the Christmas break. Gantt said his return provided a huge lift for the team.

"It's good for him to be there," Gantt said. "I think the team thinks he can steal games for us, and they're right - he can. His save percentage is somewhere around 87 percent right now, and that's just phenomenal for this level of competition."

Gantt also praised the performance of Hexburg, saying the two goalies give the team a lot of confidence.

"If (Stehrenberger) is not up to it, we've got Haws that can go to," Gantt said. "The team plays well behind him, too. I've got two goalies that I can depend on. It's nice, because a lot of teams we've seen have a clear number one and a clear number two, and the difference between them is obvious. We don't have that problem."

Just when the IceCats appeared to have overcome their trials for the year and gotten back on track, the team was dealt the biggest blow of all.

Head coach Ray Bernier announced to the team at the beginning of January that he would be stepping down from his position, citing conflicts with his professional and personal lives.

"Psychologically, it impacted the team," Gantt said. "We had some tough games coming up, and the players wondered if we would be doing the same things and who would run the team."

Gantt, who was named head coach following Bernier's departure, credited Bernier's

the coaches make the transition.

"I don't think it was as bad as it could have been," he said. "Ray did an excellent job training and mentoring Coach Perrett and myself. There was a bit of a bump, but it was as smooth as possible."

Fortunately for the IceCats, a prominent former hockey player joined the coaching staff on the same day Bernier left.

Kevan Guy, a former NHL player, has joined the IceCats as an assistant coach.

"Kevan is a gem, and we're so happy to have him," Gantt said. "He brings legitimacy to the locker room. When he opens his mouth, players listen. He's seen a lot of things by playing the game that just aren't in any coaching book."

With a complete team in place, the IceCats are prepared to make a run to complete their unachieved goals.

"Compared to the goals we set at the beginning of the season, we have work to do," Gantt said. "For example, we haven't won a game we weren't supposed to yet. We need to win against a team like Utah."

In two games against Utah this year, the IceCats have lost by one goal each time. But Utah visits on Saturday night and the IceCats are in good position to get their first win against Utah in a long time. It's been so long, in fact, nobody can remember when the last victory against Utah was.

Ingram said the team is highly motivated for that first big win against its rival. "It's definitely a motivation," he said. "I want to leave here having beaten them at least once, and this is our last chance at home."

Former NHL star Kevan Guy shares his Pro Experience with Rising Stars

By MATT HARGREAVES

Kevan Guy has an itch, but it has nothing to do with hockey's typical unsanitary locker rooms - it's because the new assistant coach of the IceCats has been retired for too long.

After seven years of retirement, Guy longed to be back in the game that intrigued him as a child.

Like most kids, Guy always dreamed of making it big. He started playing hockey in his youth, and at age 16 Guy got the opportunity of a lifetime. The Calgary Flames selected Guy in the fourth round of the National Hockey League entry draft in 1983 when he was only 16 years old.

Playing on a professional hockey team is different than basketball or football, because of the minor league system that is set in place.

Like baseball, some players spend their whole careers in the minor leagues without getting a chance to make the professional team.

"With professional hockey, you've got to get a break," Guy said. "Someone has got to get hurt, because you've got to take someone's spot. When you get your

chance, you've got to perform."

After being drafted by the Flames, Guy spent five years with the team's junior hockey teams before being invited to Calgary to play with the pro-team.

"I was supposed to go up for a weekend because someone was sick or hurt, or something like that," Guy said. "I ended up staying the whole year because I played some good games."

In those games, Guy's role was solidifying the defense for the Flames and helping them make a run into the playoffs. Guy said the highlight of his first year was playing against the Edmonton Oilers, his hometown team.

"It's got the fastest ice in the league and one of the loudest buildings around," Guy said.

Despite having realized his dream of playing professional hockey, he struggled to prove to continue to prove himself.

After one season with the Calgary Flames, Guy was sent to down to play with the Salt Lake City Golden Eagles of the International Hockey League in 1987.

The Golden Eagles were the minor league affiliate for the Flames.

Guy played most of the season with the team, helping it win its second straight Turner Cup, the championship



Coach Patrick Perrett instructs his team during a game Saturday against Northern Colorado.

Photo by Corey Perrine

trophy for the IHL, in 1987 before he was called up again to play for Calgary.

Guy struggled at times in the NHL, trying to keep up with the skills of the professional players.

"It's a huge transition," Guy said of going from junior hockey to the NHL. "The players are stronger, the game is a lot faster. The players' mental game is faster, they move the puck around faster. It just speeds the game up."

After his success with Calgary, Guy was traded to the Vancouver Canucks for the 1988-89 season.

"It's different being traded," Guy said. "When you're young, you feel terrible. You could get the phone call at 3 p.m. and be expected to play for your new team that night."

Despite the difficulties associated with being traded, he said the awkwardness went away.

"Eventually, being traded isn't so bad, you just feel like the other team wants you, and you can get more ice time," Guy said.

After two additional seasons with the Canucks, two more with the Flames, and a few more years in the minors, Guy decided to hang up his skates and retire in 1995.

Despite his love for the game, Guy's decision was not as hard as it might have been.

"I had to retire because of an injury," Guy said. "It is nice that it wasn't because I couldn't compete, or that I was too old, but that I just couldn't physically play anymore. That made it easier."

Since his departure from the hockey world, Guy has taken up work as an electrician and spent more time with his wife and young children.

Guy has recently taken up a role as an assistant coach with the Provo IceCats. The time could not have been better, in fact, Guy arrived at practice the same day that Ray Bernier announced he would be stepping down as head coach of the IceCats.

"He brought immediate credibility to the team," assistant coach Rick Bernier said. "The first night he was out with us, every one of his passes was right on target."

There have been rumors that Guy might take over the head coaching responsibilities; however, Guy has said that it would not happen this season.

What about next season? "There will have to be a lot of discussion with my wife," Guy said.